LONG DISTANCE MOTHER'S DAY

Focus, D1

Celebrating a 'kidney-versary' in Hartford

Local, B1

The Herald-Palladium

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Juvie lifer to be re-sentenced

Christopher Tobar, judge rules, offers prime example of what these cases are about

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — A Berrien County judge ruled Friday that Christopher Tobar, who currently is serving life in prison without parole, is not irreparably corrupt, is capable of change, and should be re-sentenced.

That was good news for Tobar, who attended court by video from a state prison and learned that he will have a chance to some day be free.

With everyone attending court wearing face masks due to the coronavirus pandemic, Berrien County Trial Court Judge Gary Bruce read aloud his 14-page ruling denying the prosecution's motion to re-sentence Tobar to life without parole.

TOBAR

At an earlier hearing, Berrien Assistant Prosecutor Amy Byrd had fought for the prosecution's motion while Sofia Nelson from the State Appellate Defenders Office argued for Tobar to be re-sentenced to a term of years.

His re-sentencing is set for May 26 at 1:30 p.m.

Tobar, now 44, was 17 when, on Jan. 30, 1993, he shot and killed Paries Cummings as she walked alone at around 2:30 a.m. along Clay Street in Benton Harbor.

Tobar was one of four people in a vehicle when he and another person exited the vehicle carrying sawed-off shotguns, and ordered Paries to lay face down on the ground. Seconds after the other person shot at a passer-by, but missed, Tobar fatally shot Paries, 33.

Tobar was convicted of first-degree felony murder and was sentenced to life without parole, the mandatory penalty for that crime in Michigan.

But the U.S. Supreme Court, in the 2012 case of Miller vs. Alabama, ruled that mandatory, automatic life without parole for a juvenile is unconstitutional because a juvenile's brain is not fully developed. The remedy is for a judge to have the discretion to sentence to life without parole or some term of years.

In 2016, the Supreme Court ruled the Miller decision retroactive, so courts in Michigan had to dust off their juvie-lifer cases for review. Prosecutors could file a motion for a Miller hearing, in which the prosecution could fight for a sentence of life without parole while defense lawyers could fight for a term

See **TOBAR**, page A2

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Rhiannon Cizon, executive director of the History Center at Courthouse Square in Berrien Springs, has created pioneer activity packets that can be picked up for free from the Murdock Cabin during normal business hours on May 21 at the Courthouse Square. Each packet contains four activities designed for students in first grade and up, including tin art, stencil art, and homemade butter and johnny cake recipes.

Pioneer Day – COVID-19 style

Berrien County Historical Association gets creative in trying to engage home-bound students

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Travel back in time to the 1830s and learn how the pioneers created tin art and made butter with the help of a Pioneer Activity Packet from the History Center at Courthouse Square in Berrien Springs.

The COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of the annual Pioneer Day field trip for students, so the center's new executive director, Rhiannon Cizon, decided to make the packets so they can be worked on at home. The packets will be available for pick-up between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. May 21.

The packets include a pie tin, nails and simple designs so participants can make tin art like they did in the 1830s.

Cizon demonstrates how early pioneers created tin art, one of four activities featured in pioneer activity packets that will be made available on May 21 to interested parties.

The recipes for butter and johnny cakes are also included, along with instructions on how to make stencil art.

"A family can make the butter, make the johnny cake and have themselves a pioneer meal," she said.

Families are asked to send an email to info@berrienhistory.org, with the number of packets needed, to make sure enough are available.

Cizon said that the center's activities may not be deemed as essential, but they provide a necessary distraction for people worrying about the virus that has swept across the world.

"We are going through a shared trauma," she said. "It's perfectly OK to say, 'Today is the day I want to focus on something casual.' Focus on something that allows you, just for a moment, to think about something other than the fact that we are in a very large-scale pandemic. We're here to provide someone a little bit of relief."

She said information on the center's activities can be found on its Facebook page – History Center at Courthouse

See **PIONEER DAY**, page A2

Berrien sees uptick in COVID-19 deaths, hospitalizations

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BENTON TOWNSHIP — There has been a little bit of an increase in the number of COVID-19 related deaths in Berrien County recently, county health officials noted Friday.

"That is something we're paying attention to. You do expect an increase in deaths to lag a little bit behind the increase in number of cases so that's not exactly out of what we have been expecting," said Nicki Britten, health officer for the Berrien County Health Department (BCHD), during the department's weekly news conference.

The BCHD reported the county's 22nd death due to COVID-19 Friday, a woman over the age of 85 who had underlying health conditions.

Britten said the county has had nine deaths since April 26 – roughly a two-week period.

Loren Hamel, president of Spectrum Health Lakeland, said the lag is from the diagnosis coming ahead of the hospitalization and hospitalization happening a week or two before some people die.

He also said there's been a slow increase in hospitalizations.

"There are now about 20 COVID-19 patients in the hospital after hovering at eight, nine and 10 for quite a while," Hamel said.

He said that's nowhere near the capacity of the hospital.

"We're not running out of space and we hope not to use that capacity," he said. "We are able to set up 67 more beds than we usually have and a second ICU, which we are currently using as an isolation ICU."

Hamel and Britten said seeing that increase means people still need to be careful, practice social distancing and wear masks when around other people.

"A lot of you are watching the data and we've been getting a lot of questions about some of those trends," Britten said. "As you know, we're watching the data to help inform when can we remove some of these things like social distancing."

Vulnerable populations

The health department has been working very closely with congregant care facilities, like nursing homes, retirement communities and the Berrien County Jail.

Berrien County Undersheriff Chuck Heit reported during the news conference that 10 of the jail's inmates have been tested for COVID-19 and all tested negative.

He said jail staff have been taking a symptomatic approach by isolating and testing anyone with symptoms of illness. They've also called in an outside cleaning staff to do a lot of extra cleaning of common areas and the cells being used for isolation.

"We've even made it so the arresting officer doesn't have to come into the jail, like they used to," Heit said. "We have the ability in the sally port to finish whatever they need to, just to try to keep the virus from spreading."

The state reported that as of Thursday, there is now a total of 52 cases of COVID-19 in Berrien County's eight skilled nursing facilities. West Woods of Niles has 31 cases, Hallmark Living in Benton Harbor has 17 and Pine Ridge Rehabilitation & Nursing in Stevensville

See **COVID**, page A6

South Haven Farm Market will open on time, with distancing measures in place

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

SOUTH HAVEN — At a time when it seems every summertime activity in South Haven has been canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic, at least one will continue – the South Haven Farm Market.

The market plans to open on schedule, Saturday, May 16 from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Huron Street pavilion, according to Market Manager Brad Adamson.

Unlike other outdoor events and activities that draw large crowds – which Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's stay-at-home order deems as "unessential" through the month of May – her order does allow for farm markets.

"The executive orders have included farm markets as essential services and has deemed farmers as approved vendors," Adamson explained. "We feel this (the market) is an essential resource for not only our farmers, but through our SNAP (EBT) program, it provides access to healthy foods for those that need it."

Over the years, the South Haven Farm Market has grown considerably not only in terms of its vendors but the customers that it draws. In the height of the summer growing season, it's not uncommon for vendors to also utilize neighboring Dyckman Park to sell their products.

See **MARKET**, page A2

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Features	A3	Obituaries	A5	Puzzles	A3	Weather	A6

Sunday Weather
High 45 Low 32

6 50645 49086 7

TOBAR

From page A1

of years.

Berrien County Prosecutor Michael Sepic filed Miller motions in several cases, including Tobar's. His Miller hearing was conducted by Judge Bruce in February.

Factors a judge must consider in a Miller hearing, besides the facts of the case, include the defendant's history as a youth, childhood and home life, family history, mental health issues, school history and general relative maturity of the inmate as a youth. Conduct in prison can also be considered.

The sentence of life without parole should be reserved for the rare juvenile who is found to be irreparably corrupt, the Supreme Court said.

In announcing his decision Friday, Bruce said based on testimony during Tobar's Miller hearing, the prefrontal cortex of his brain, which controls the decision-making function of the brain, was not fully developed, leaving him subject to impulse and limiting his ability to make decisions during a stressful situation.

Further, the judge said, Tobar had experienced severe childhood trauma, had consumed alcohol prior to his actions the night of the killing, was susceptible to peer influence and displayed the "hallmark features of youth" as defined by the Miller decision.

At Tobar's Miller hearing, Michael Dannefell, a sheriff's deputy who was on loan to the prosecutor's office to conduct background investigations on Berrien's juvenile-lifers, testified that Tobar's prison record is relatively positive and that he had the "worst childhood" and least prison misconducts of any of the cases he'd investigated.

Tobar's sister, Alethea Tobar, testified at his hearing that he has never denied his guilt and has said that he is sorry for his actions in 1993. Accepting responsibility and showing genuine remorse are factors in a Miller hearing.

Testifying himself at his Miller hearing in February, Tobar told the court that his childhood was characterized by frequent moves, hunger, lack of proper or clean clothing, lack of heat and electricity, cockroach infestations and other deplorable conditions.

He said he'd witnessed a man hold a gun to his mother's head while she was holding a baby, and that at age 9 or 10, he had witnessed a man shot in the face at close range on their front porch.

Based on testimony, Judge Bruce said, Tobar was the youngest person in the car the night of the killing, and had gotten out of the car and pointed a gun at Paries Cummings because another person in the car "told me to."

One doctor testified that Tobar's childhood trauma was some of the worst she'd heard of and that, in her opinion, he not only is capable of rehabilitation, he has been rehabilitated.

"To summarize, the defendant's actions of Jan. 30, 1993, were a prime example of immaturity, impetuosity and failure to appreciate the risks and consequences," the judge read from his ruling. "It was … a runaway train."

Bruce said after considering all the factors and testimony on both sides, he could not conclude that Tobar is one of those "rare offender(s) whose crime reflects irreparable corruption," and believes, based on the law, he should be re-sentenced.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

LOTTERIES

Friday drawings

Michigan

Poker Lotto
AC-KD-KS-5D-2H
Midday Daily 3
3-2-1
Midday Daily 4
6-6-5-9
Daily 3
0-7-6
Daily 4
9-4-6-8
Fantasy 5
06-13-16-24-28
Keno
01-02-05-08-14-15-19-27-28-30-37-39-41-42-50-52-54-62-64-70-76-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$231 million
Powerball jackpot
$68 million

Thursday drawings

Indiana

Cash 5
08-25-26-38-40
Cash4Life
28-31-40-52-54, Cash Ball: 3
Quick Draw Midday
04-06-09-10-22-25-26-28-29-30-32-37-38-41-45-47-52-59-63-77, BE: 6
Daily Three-Midday
9-6-3, SB: 8
Daily Three-Evening
5-5-7, SB: 3
Daily Four-Midday
7-7-2-3, SB: 8
Daily Four-Evening
8-4-6-9, SB: 3
Quick Draw Evening
09-13-14-15-20-24-33-35-39-40-45-52-56-59-62-64-67-74-78-79, BE: 62

Illinois

Lotto
16-24-30-31-43-51, Extra Shot: 25
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
15-16-21-26-29
Estimated jackpot
$700,000
Pick Three-Midday
6-6-0, Fireball: 4
Pick Three-Evening
8-2-6, Fireball: 6
Pick Four-Midday
4-0-1-4, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Evening
9-0-0-0, Fireball: 9
Lucky Day Lotto
11-23-28-31-43

– The Associated Press

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PIONEER DAY

From page A1

Square.

"We're still engaging in history even though we're closed," she said. "They can't come to us, but we can come to them in some capacity."

She said that pioneer children usually lived far away from other families, so they were naturally isolated. Today, many children are isolated due to the governor's stay-at-home order geared to slow down the spread of COVID-19. But she said there are many differences, due to technology.

"Kids in 1833 in Michigan had games and toys but for the most part, they had to help out around the house doing chores for survival," she said. "In 2020, we're all isolated at home, but we can still talk with our friends using technology."

In the 1830s, she said the only way to communicate with someone long distance was through the mail and it could take weeks or even months to get a response back.

Scavenger hunt

Another activity geared for ages 13 and up is a month-long scavenger hunt, which started this past week.

Clues will be sent out every Thursday in May via email and will be posted on the center's Facebook page.

"The answers will be revealed after June 4," Cizon said. "Each clue is either a person, a place or a thing within Berrien County."

Sign up to receive the clues by sending an email to info@berrienhistory.org. The answers to the clues are buildings and tombstones in Berrien County and can be found in the book "Historical Sketches of Berrien County," by Robert C. Myers.

Participants can either take a photo of the appropriate book page or the actual location. Anyone going to the locations in person are reminded to follow all social distancing guidelines and to be respectful of public and private property.

"The answers are all outside," Cizon said. "There's at least four or five buildings. A few of them are people. You can go to the cemetery and take a picture of their tombstone."

Participants can email the answers each week or wait until the end to send them in.

Answers to the clues must have "scavenger hunt" in the subject line of the email and be received by June 4 to be eligible for prizes, which include gift certificates, a membership to the Berrien County Historical Association, plus a copy of "Historical Sketches of Berrien County."

Every correct photo sent in will count as one entry towards the drawing, with up to 12 entries available.

Not every email has to have an answer to each clue, but all answers must include a photo to be counted.

Copies of the book can be purchased by calling the center at 471-1202, or by sending an email.

The Clues: Week of May 7

Clue #1 – *In Oak Ridge lies a man of great renown*
Who certainly knew how to make a man frown
But his generosity was never equaled when alive
And people respected him far and wide.

Clue #2 – *Before this north county town was to exist*
Two other places had a temporary tryst.
Griffith was okay, but Shingle-diggins was twee
But today's name proved third time is the key.

Clue #3 – *It's an old thing made of mud and tree*
Where families lived and loved with glee
A space also filled with glass and stone
Where it is now, it's no longer alone.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

MARKET

From page A1

This year, however, at least for the start of the market season, Adamson said crowds and vendors will be limited.

"We expect approximately 25 farmers at this time," he said. "We will be spacing vendors out to promote social distancing. We will also control the total number of guests at the market, as needed, to keep within the distancing guidelines."

Another change will involve the variety of products allowed for sale. Normaly the market attracts not only growers, but vendors who sell homemade products, such as sauces, honey, maple syrup and baked goods.

That will change, however, when people go to the market this month.

"At this time, we will be limited to farmers," Adamson said.

Hours for the market are Saturdays from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. during the month of May. Starting in June through mid-October, hours will be from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays and Wednesdays.

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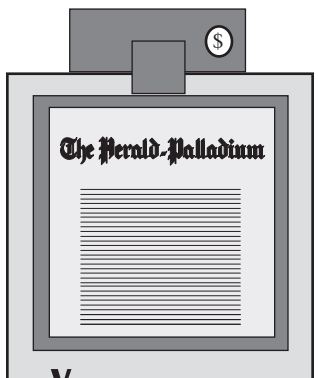

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PRIME TIME TV

SATURDAY EVENING MAY 9

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Shark Tank CC (DVS)		American Idol The top 10 are revealed. CC			
CBS 2 3 22	Paid Program	NCIS: New Orleans CC (DVS)		S.W.A.T. "Fire in the Sky" CC		48 Hours (N) CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	To Be Announced					
FOX 17 222 28 32	Modern Family	9-1-1 A girl in a runaway hot air balloon.		Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Lawrence Welk	Antiques Roadshow (Part 3 of 3) CC		As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	Keep-Appear	Keep-Appear
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	News	Cops CC
MNT 50	Graham Bensinger	Dateline A celebration ends in murder.		Dateline "The Sting" CC		Dateline "The Target" CC	
WCIU 26	2 Broke Girls	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland "Rearview Mirror"		Murdoch Mysteries CC (DVS)		Murdoch Mysteries "Painted Ladies"	
WGN 9	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)	
A&E	5:00 Live PD CC	Live PD: Rewind (N) CC		Live PD "Live PD -- 05.09.20" (N) (L) CC			
AMC	5:30 ★★★ Erin Brockovich ('00)		★★★ Twister ('96) Helen Hunt. Storm chasers race to test a new tornado-monitoring device. CC				
Animal	The Zoo	The Zoo (N)		The Zoo (N)		Saved By The Barn	
BET	Blue Strk	★★ National Security ('03) Martin Lawrence.					Browns
Big Ten	Rutgers	Rutgers Basketball		Rutgers Basketball		Rutgers	
Bravo	Million Dollar LA	Million Dollar Listing Los Angeles CC		Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows
Cartoon	Gumball	Dragon	Dragon	American	American	Burgers	Rick
Cinemax	The Darkest Hour	★★★ Chronicle ('12) Dane DeHaan, Alex Russell. CC			:25 ★★ Phantoms ('98) Peter O'Toole. (P). CC		
CMT	★★ Eat Pray Love	★★★ Steel Magnolias ('89) Sally Field. CC					
CNBC	Boss	Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank CC		Shark Tank	
CNN	Situation	Situation Room		Situation Room		CNN Special Report	
Comedy	Talladega	★ Mr. Deeds ('02) Adam Sandler.				★ Blended	
Discovery	:00 Moonshiners	Moonshiners Tickle gets a life sentence.		Expedition Unknown CC		Expedition Unknown CC	
Disney	Raven	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Owl Hse.	Owl Hse.
DIY	Insane	Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
ESPN	6:00 UFC 249: Ferguson vs. Gaethje - Prelims (N)					SportsCenter (N)	
ESPN2	:00 E:60	Cornhole CC				2019 Death Diving	
ESPNC	Baseball	MLB Baseball From Oct. 23, 1981.				MLB Baseball	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Life	Watters' World (N)		Justice With Jeanine		Greg Gutfeld	
Fox Sports	Bowling	Detroit Tigers Classics (N)					
Freefrm	5:30 ★★★ The Parent Trap ('98)	:40 ★★★ The Blind Side ('09, Drama) Sandra Bullock, Tim McGraw, Quinton Aaron. CC					
FX	:00 ★★ Pitch Perfect 3 ('17) Anna Kendrick. CC			★★ Pitch Perfect 3 ('17) Anna Kendrick, Hailee Steinfeld, Rebel Wilson. CC			
Golf	:00 PGA Tour Golf From Trinity Forest Golf Club in Dallas.						
Hallmark	:00 ★ October Kiss ('15) Ashley Williams, Sam Jaeger. CC			★ Love, Romance & Chocolate ('19, Romance) Lacey Chabert, Will Kemp. CC			
HBO	Crazy Asians	★★★ Downton Abbey ('19, Drama) Hugh Bonneville, Jim Carter. (P). CC				:02 Run "Run"	:33 Run "Kiss"
History	Aliens	Ancient Aliens		:02 Ancient Aliens		:05 Ancient Aliens	
HGTV	Love-List	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Love It or List It	
Learning	Gypsy	Self-Quarantined		Self-Quarantined		Self-Quarantined	
Lifetime	Mother Knows	★ Maternal Secrets ('17, Suspense) Kate Mansi, Kelly McGillis. (P). CC				:03 ★ The Wrong Stepmother ('19)	
MSNBC	MSNBC	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Insd.	Chicago Bulls Classic					Sneaker
NFL	Football	A Football Life		A Football Life		A Football Life	
Nick	Danger	Danger	TBA	Dylan	Sponge.	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Meth	Drugs, Inc. "Philly Dope" CC				:03 Drugs, Inc. CC	
Oxygen	:00 Gypsy Rose & Nick: A Love to Kill For			Snapped "Donna Scrivo" CC		Accident, Suicide or Murder CC	
Parmt	Men Blk 2	★★ Men in Black 3 ('12, Action) Will Smith. CC					Independ
Showtime	:15 ★ Peppermint ('18, Action) Jennifer Garner. CC			★★★ Seven ('95, Suspense) Brad Pitt, Morgan Freeman. CC			
Starz	:12 ★★ Colombiana ('11) Zoe Saldana, Jordi Mollà. CC			:03 Outlander "Journeycake" CC		:08 Vida "Episode 18" CC	
STZENC	6:15 RoboCop	★ Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance ('11) Nicolas Cage.			:38 ★★ Fallen ('98, Suspense) Denzel Washington. CC		
SyFy	6:30 ★★ The Mummy ('99) Brendan Fraser. (DVS)			:15 ★★ The Mummy Returns ('01) Brendan Fraser, Rachel Weisz. CC (DVS)			
TBS	6:30 ★ Identity Thief ('13) Jason Bateman. CC (DVS)			Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory
TCM		★★ Ace in the Hole ('51, Drama) Kirk Douglas, Jan Sterling, Porter Hall. CC				★★★ The Front Page ('31) CC	
TMC	:15 ★ An Acceptable Loss ('18) Tika Sumpter. CC			★ Species III ('04, Science Fiction) Sunny Mabrey, Robin Dunne. CC			
TNT	Account	Movie CC					Immortals
Travel	911	Paranormal 911		Paranormal 911 (N)		Par. Nightmare	
TV Land	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	6:45 ★★ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift ('06)			★★ Fast & Furious ('09, Action) Vin Diesel, Paul Walker. CC (DVS)			
VH1	Baby Boy	★★★ 8 Mile ('02) Eminem, Kim Basinger. CC					All Eyez
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods "Your Six" CC (DVS)		Blue Bloods "The Devil You Know"		Blue Bloods "My Aim Is True"	

Insensitive question leaves grieving mother speechless

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: My daughter unexpectedly died very recently. A "friend" called today asking how I was doing (quarantine, food, pet food, etc). Then she asked me the most unnerving question: "Do you have 'June' with you?" I was floored. So many thoughts came rushing at me at once. June was disabled since birth. She went to live in a group home nine years ago. The friend knew I brought her home for weekends.

After I didn't speak for several minutes, she asked in an annoyed tone, "Well, did you get her ashes or not?" (As if having her ashes with me was a comfort? It isn't!) Abby, I didn't know what to say. Her question slammed me against the wall. I mumbled a response, said I had to go and hung up.

I'm trying to make myself believe she meant nothing but concern, but I can't seem to make myself believe that the words she used weren't purposely cruel. My warm feelings for her have changed to something ugly. I'm still gasping. Your thoughts? – Grieving Mother

DEAR GRIEVING MOTHER: Let's give the woman a perfect 10 on the insensitivity meter. She was tactless, but she may not have meant to be unkind. My thought is that you handled the situation as well as you could since her question left you understandably flat-footed. However, I would have answered her differently. I would have responded, "Why do you ask?" and let her explain herself.

DEAR ABBY: My older sister bullied me from the time our parents divorced. I was in elementary school, and she was in middle school. We are now adults and retired. Her form of bullying now is to exclude me. It started with announcing to me that I was adopted and progressed to saying in front of me, "Let's have a family reunion" and not inviting me.

When our father died, she was his executor. She showed the will to my sisters, but would not allow me to see it. Yes, I was in the will as an equal. She told the attorney I was a granddaughter, which I caught and corrected.

When I told my oldest sister my feelings were hurt, she accused me of being jealous and blocked me on social media. It's hard to disengage because I have no other family, but I keep busy in other social circles. I was unable to have kids, and the one child I adopted is busy working in another state, so it's just my husband and me now.

I tried for years to be nice and to contribute as much as possible. I know I have done nothing wrong. I have searched my soul to see why I deserve this treatment. I don't! Should I just let go of my family since at least two of my three sisters seem to want to let go of me? – Left Out In Florida

DEAR LEFT OUT: Yes, you should. Disengaging from the emotionally abusive sisters who treat you cruelly would be healthy for you. Maintain a relationship with the one who is open to it.

I have advised more than once in this column that sometimes it's necessary to create a family of one's own if circumstances prevent a normal relationship with a person's birth family. You and your husband should continue branching out socially. I predict that once you move in that direction, you will be far happier than you are today.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Husband tells her to save her stories for her friends

Carolyn Hax

Adapted from an online discussion.

DEAR CAROLYN: Last night I was trying to talk to my husband about something interesting – or so I thought – that had happened during my day. I caught him visibly zoning out, and to my utter chagrin he said he was having a hard time focusing on my story and that, furthermore, he often wonders why I have chosen him as my audience for certain things when a close girlfriend would be better.

After getting past my initial hurt, I started reflecting and have realized he's right, since we've all started getting married I've slowly moved away from buddies and instead relied on him as my main source of conversation and companionship. I can't remember the last time I talked on the phone to anyone, let alone meeting up.

But THEN it dawned on me maybe that's exactly what marriage is, or is supposed to be.

Now I'm going in circles and not sure whether to revisit this with my husband. Am I wrong to rely on him as my most faithful listener, or should he try to be a better listener for me? – Ouch

OUCH: Oh my goodness, please just call your friends.

There's more to this, of course, but when there's a solution just sitting there for you, take it.

As for the other stuff: – Your husband's response to you wasn't as kind as it could have been (said the advice columnist in a monument to understatement), but it sounds like he did you a favor with his candor. Now get out and circulate. – There is no "supposed to be." There is what is. And your "is" tells you that relying on your marriage as your only source of conversation isn't sustainable. – Any plan that involves "or should he try" is a no. You wrote in, so presumably you've met my hobbyhorses? Here are two: Plans that involve changing someone else's behavior are nonstarters (since you can only change your own), and the word "should" is the root of all disappointment. There's what you can do, and there's what you get. So, call your friends.

It might take some effort to revive your friendships if you've neglected them for a long time. You might need new ones. Either way, your marriage can be stronger for it.

RE: Ouch: This would not work for me. Sure, she should maintain friendships, but to me intimacy includes being able to talk about things and having my partner interested in me. I think it's worth her considering whether her husband can meet what she needs out of a relationship. – Anonymous

ANONYMOUS: True.

I didn't mean for her friends to replace marital intimacy, though, but instead give her room to restore it. I saw the husband as possibly, even likely, overwhelmed by being her entire social life. Her circulating more could take the pressure off him.

RE: Ouch: I also think there are plenty of conversations that do not rise to the level of intimacy. If "Ouch" is wanting to talk to her husband for more than 30 seconds about how Rachel at work has a new haircut but then Becky decided that she might look better with bangs ... and ugh! That's where other outlets can come in handy. – Outlet

OUTLET: Yes, that's what I was getting at, thanks.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

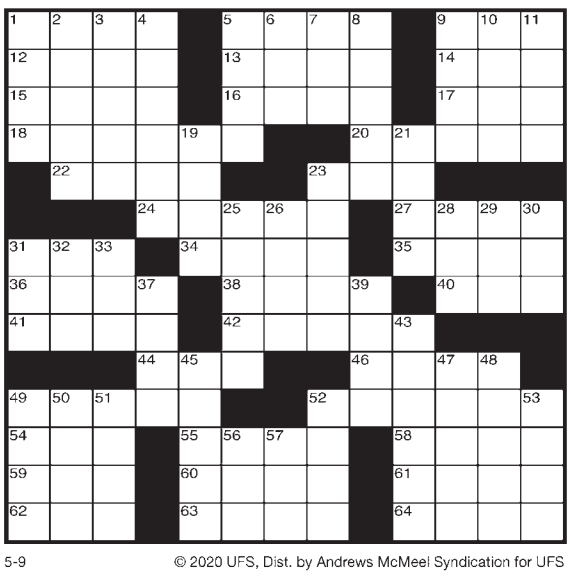
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 Agreement
5 Stem's end
9 Ewer
12 Stare at
13 Like Mr. Hyde
14 Mineral deposit
15 Bellyache
16 Verne skipper
17 Noncom
18 Lion families
20 Hearth debris
22 Running wild
23 Sault — Marie
24 "Nifty!" (hyph.)
27 Clumsy boats
31 Phrased
34 Unhearing
35 In — of
36 Bit of the universe
38 Annoying insect
40 Paramount rival
41 Wynter or Andrews
42 Campaign topic
44 NBC rival
46 "Frozen" sister
49 Uneven
52 Choir selections
54 Rage
55 Speeder's penalty
58 Work like a dog
59 By way of
60 Length x width
61 Active volcano
62 Electric swimmer
63 Squeals on
64 Used a rifle

DOWN
1 Splendor
2 Old Greek marketplace
3 Assert
4 Sinew
5 Eye part
6 Twilight, to a poet
7 Zero in on
8 Parade sight
9 Kid around with
10 Encourage
11 Catches on
19 Used thriftily
21 Tape up
23 Lobby furnishings
25 Zeus' shield
26 Light browns
28 Brink
29 Party extra
30 I am, to Livy
31 Gym mat
32 Ms. Hagen
33 Cargo unit
37 "— the Knife"
39 Mon. follower
43 Gladdens
45 Without doubt (2 wds.)
47 Slow-moving animal
48 Acid in proteins
49 Kid around
50 Pennsylvania port
51 Bona fide
52 Early vegetables
53 Miniblind part
56 Lyricist — Gershwin
57 After taxes

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	E	A	R			A	S	K		S	P	Y
A	L	L	A	Y		L	I	E		K	E	A
D	I	E	G	O		U	R	N		I	R	K
			E	D	A	M		Y	A	N	K	S
	M	O	D	E	M		L	A	G			
L	O	S		L	A	D	E		H	O	L	D
I	N	C		S	L	O	G		A	L	A	I
S	E	A	N		G	R	I	T		I	C	K
P	Y	R	E		A	M	B	O		V	E	E
			I	S	M		L	O	P	E	D	
C	H	I	L	I		Y	E	T	I			
R	E	V		G	E	O		S	K	A	T	E
E	R	A		M	A	G		Y	E	A	R	S
W	A	N		A	R	I		S	H	I	P	



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JUMBLE

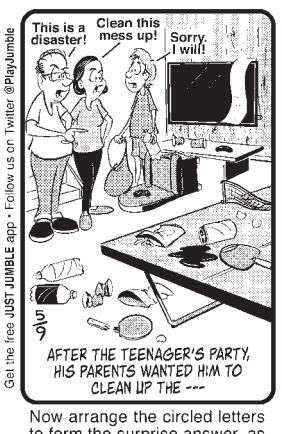
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

CORUC

AACWM

CONKUL

FLUERF



Get the free JUMBLE app • Follow us on Twitter @Playjumble

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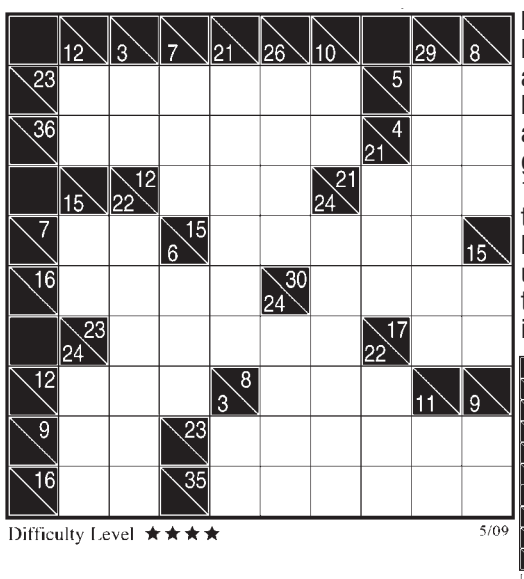
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " " (Answers Monday)

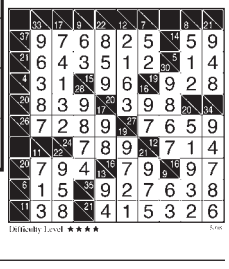
Yesterday's Jumbles: GRIPE SHIRT APPEAR HYBRID
Answer: When the church at the summit was voted "Fourth Best Monument" in France, it was — HIGH PRAISE

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★★ 5/09

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

If you venture into a duplicate bridge club, probably you will compete in a matchpointed pairs game. The same deals will be played at all tables and the different results compared. Suppose you and your partner are sitting North-South. On every deal, you receive 1 matchpoint for each North-South you outscore, and half a matchpoint for every tie.

Suppose at nine out of 10 tables North-South play in three no-trump and win 10 tricks for plus 430. If you win 11 tricks, you score 460 and receive 9 matchpoints – a "top." But if you take only nine tricks, you will get 0 matchpoints – a bottom – even though you made your game contract.

This drive for extra points sometimes "forces" you to risk your contract in the hunt for an overtrick – as long as the odds are in your favor.

In four spades, at Chicago, rubber bridge or teams, you would draw trumps and ruff your club loser in the dummy: the safe route to 10 tricks. But in a duplicate, if other declarers are making an overtrick, you will score very few matchpoints for making your contract exactly.

The right play is to win the diamond lead in the dummy and take an immediate club finesse. Suppose West wins with the queen and returns another diamond. Win in the dummy and take a second club finesse: It is a 2-to-1 favorite to win.

True, if it loses, you will go down, but you will have company. However, when the second club finesse wins, you draw trumps, discard dummy's diamond five on the club ace and ruff your diamond loser in the dummy, bringing home an overtrick and getting a shared top.

North 05-09-20
♠ 8 7 4 3
♥ 10 7 4 3
♦ A K 5
♣ 9 2

West
♠ 6 2
♥ 8 6 5
♦ Q J 10 7
♣ Q 6 4 3

East
♠ 10 5
♥ A J 9 2
♦ 6 4 3
♣ K 8 7 5

South
♠ A K Q J 9
♥ K Q
♦ 9 8 2
♣ A J 10

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1♠	Pass	2♠	Pass
4♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

					1			
8				9		5		
			8	6	7	1	3	
6		9		8			1	
7	1			3			4	5
	4			1		6		8
	8	4	3	7	5			
		3		4				7
			1					

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

5	7	1	9	3	8	6	2	4
6	3	4	5	2	1	9	8	7
8	9	2	6	4	7	1	3	5
1	8	5	2	7	4	3	6	9
7	6	9	8	5	3	4	1	2
2	4	3	1	9	6	7	5	8
4	2	6	7	1	5	8	9	3
9	1	7	3	8	2	5	4	6
3	5	8	4	6	9	2	7	1

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Face coverings aren't a symbol of tyranny

Jonah Goldberg

One of the things I love about America – and there are many – is her deeply ingrained rebelliousness. When the government tells us to do something, we instinctively question it.

Of course, all principles can be taken too far. It's good to question authority, but if a sign says, "Do not swim in pond, there are alligators here," and your response is, "I'll do what I want, you're not the boss of me," you're an idiot.

If you're on a lifeboat with several other people and everyone agrees to ration the fresh water, but your answer is, "Shut up, I'm thirsty," being the sole dissenter makes you the jerk, not the hero.

Which brings me to the newest form of fashionable rebellion in some quarters: refusal to wear face masks when warranted.

Note the qualifier "when warranted." I think mask-wearing can go overboard. In my neighborhood in Washington, D.C., I see joggers running alone on warm days wearing masks, and I wonder, "Why?" It's gotta be uncomfortable. But when I'm in a grocery store, I wear the mask. If I'm alone in an aisle, I might take it off – they fog up my glasses. But if someone is nearby, or if I'm in the checkout line, I make sure to put it back on.

Bear in mind, the CDC's recommendation that people wear masks isn't primarily about self-protection but the protection of others. There's little to no evidence that a mask will prevent you from getting the disease if you're exposed to it. There's some evidence that if you're infected with COVID-19, wearing a mask will help prevent you from spreading it. In other words, it's a medically sound courtesy to others.

I don't have any problem with Donald Trump not wearing a mask at his press conferences. He's tested regularly, as are the people around him. I think the television reporters standing outside at the beach wearing a mask are being a little silly. The camera can easily be more than 6 feet away. But the idea that public figures should model correct behavior isn't ridiculous either. It's a judgment call.

That said, what I find utterly baffling – and frankly, embarrassing – is the idea that wearing a mask in any situation is a surrender to tyranny and fear. Various cable TV and talk radio hosts have embraced the idea that wearing a mask is a concession to tyrannical social engineers and a "symbol of fear," in the words of Rush Limbaugh. Protestors boo suggestions to wear masks, and they carry signs reading "Just Say No" and "Don't Mask the Truth." At one store in Michigan, a security guard was shot to death for telling a patron to wear as mask.

Cheryl Chumley, the online opinion editor of The Washington Times, writes that the practice of mask-wearing is "like the red belts worn by the communists when they want to show solidarity, when they want to make public expressions of party loyalty, when they want to display their sacrifice of self for the greater good."

No. No, it's not like that. Wearing red belts to prove you're a good communist is not at all like wearing a mask to ensure you won't kill someone's grandmother – never mind simply to reassure said grandmother it's safe for her to shop at the supermarket.

According to any remotely recognizable theory of limited government – whether you call it libertarianism, constitutionalism, conservatism, classical liberalism or even Americanism – the government has not just the authority but the obligation to prevent threats to public welfare. From colonial times to well after the ratification of the Constitution, governments took extreme measures – quarantines, inoculation programs, etc. – to prevent the spread of yellow fever and other epidemics. During the Revolutionary War, George Washington ordered the mandatory inoculation of his troops to prevent the spread of smallpox.

In other words, epidemics, like wars, are the great exceptions to limited government. This used to be Conservatism 101: The government shouldn't boss us around unless there is a truly compelling reason, like an invading army or, in this case, an invading virus.

What makes all of this even dumber is that all the federal government has done is recommend mask-wearing. Most of the places that require masks are private businesses. Admittedly, some are adhering to local public health guidelines, but so what? Why aren't these rebels going shirtless and shoeless into restaurants to stick it to the man and his Maoist "No Shirt, No Shoes, No Service" signs?

By all means, continue to question authority, but bear in mind, sometimes the authorities are right.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

Are we really all in this together?

Leonard Pitts

We're all in this thing together. Or so we are told by celebrities, politicians and every third TV commercial. It's the lullaby with which America soothes itself every time these shores are attacked. That's why Monday, Dec. 8, 1941, saw long lines at military recruiting offices and millions of dollars pouring in to the American Red Cross. Because Pearl Harbor had been bombed. Because we were all in this thing together.

But we weren't, a point driven home just two years later when rioting erupted across the country – Detroit, New York, L.A., Beaumont, Texas – in defense and expression of, and resistance to, white supremacy. White rioters in Mobile even crippled production at a shipyard critical to the war effort, critical to this thing we all were in together.

So in this pandemic era, one is disappointed, but hardly surprised, to see noisy protests against stay-at-home and social-distancing orders serve as platforms for our racial hypocrisy. Which brings us to May 7 in Lansing, where, for the second time in two weeks, the statehouse was under siege by protesters promoting the anarchistic idea that government has no right to govern, that closing businesses and asking for social distancing in a public-health crisis amounts to "tyranny."

No, it's not the economy, stupid, ruined as it is and as frightened as people are of losing their homes and businesses. If it were just the economy, the protests would not be nearly all white. Who suffers more in a downturn than people of color? If it were just the economy, there would have been no Confederate flag, no sign threatening to lynch lawmakers. If it were just the economy, there would have been no tactical gear and guns.

There were plenty of both as a raucous crowd of protesters stood nose to nose with state troopers, screaming into their faces, demanding access to the House floor. The officers wore protective masks in line with medical guidelines. The spittle-spraying demonstrators did not. Yet there were no injuries and only one arrest, for a squabble between two protesters.

Imagine if a similarly armed, similarly behaved group of Muslims had descended on the capital. Would they have escaped with such benign results? That's going to be a No.

Donald Trump tweeted afterward that the armed white mob were "very good people." Would black protesters have enjoyed presidential praise? This is the same Trump who thought Colin Kaepernick an "SOB" because he quietly took a knee during the National Anthem in protest of police brutality, so that'll be another No.

And we're all in this thing together?

Tell it to Cpl. Rupert Trimmingham, a black soldier who, a little over two years after Pearl Harbor, could only watch as German POWs dined in a Louisiana restaurant from which he was legally barred.

Yes, by all means, let's wash our hands and wear our masks, keep social distance and look out for one other. But don't be fooled by this latest attack on these shores. The lullaby is still only a lullaby, only the old sweet song of an ideal America has never quite managed to make herself believe.

All in this thing together? No.

We're all in this thing, but that's about it.

Leonard Pitts is a columnist for the Miami Herald. lpitts@miamiherald.com.

LETTERS

Restart economy while keeping vulnerable safe

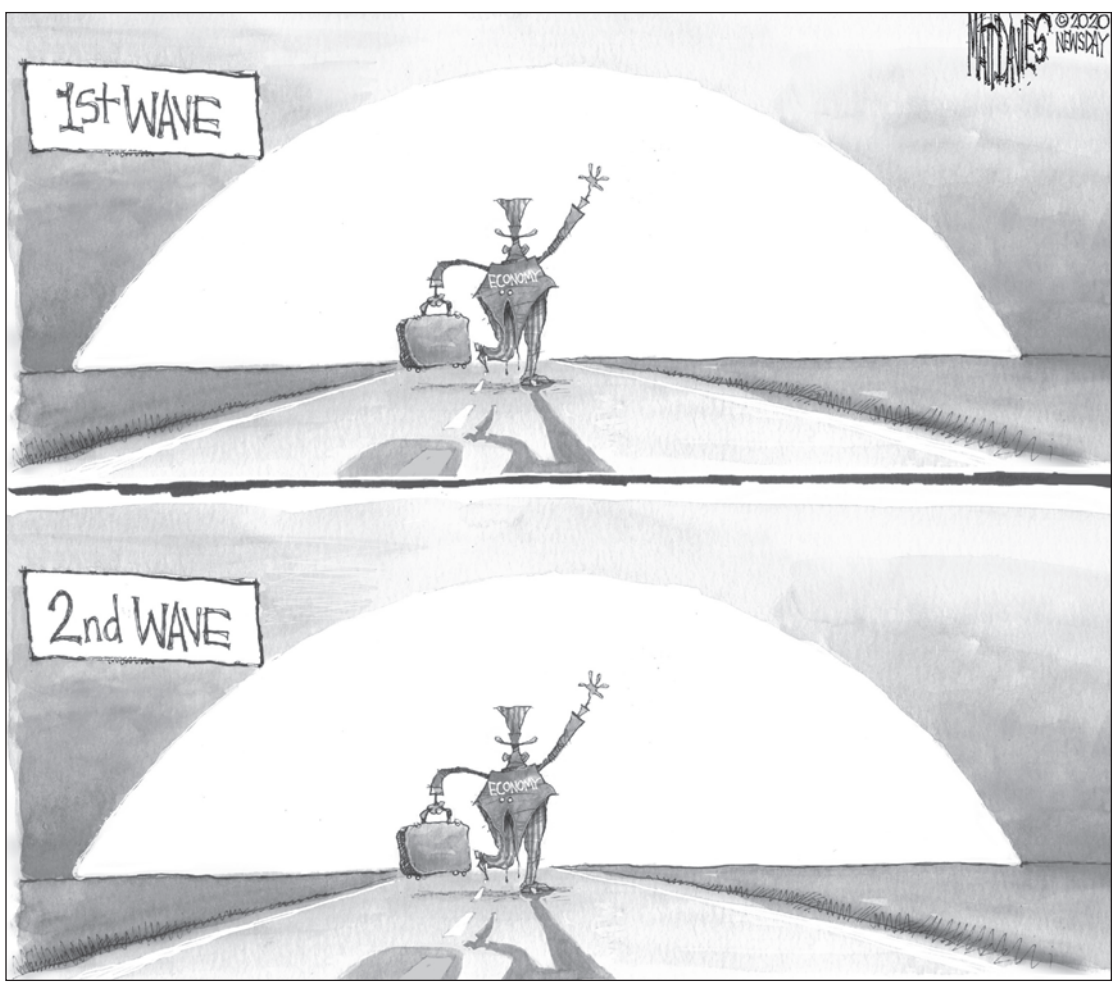
Editor,

In a May 7 Herald-Palladium letter to the editor, 69-year-old John Buursma complained our state elected officials as well as U.S. Rep. Fred Upton are signing his death warrant by trying to restart the economy. Mr. Buursma wants to delay opening the economy for another one or two weeks. I would be interested in seeing the data Mr. Buursma uses to conclude two more weeks produces a significant risk reduction for contracting the COVID-19 illness.

Both of my parents are 88 years old. My dad's health is still solid, my mom's not so much, and risks contracting COVID-19.

Clearly both are retired and don't work anymore at their age, but I find it interesting their main concern is for all the people who are affected by shutting down the economy for a virus. They are concerned for families who have no means for providing for their families. Most families can't work, and the Michigan unemployment system is broken so no financial support from the government can be expected soon.

My mom and dad were born in 1931 and grew up in the Depression. They know what it is like to not have enough to eat or having a health care system that can fix most things. They risked acquiring polio, which my dad's sister contracted, because there was no vaccine for polio until the 1950s. When someone in their era contracted an infection, there was no such thing as antibiotics, so my dad indicated you were expected to die, and yet, the economy was never shut down at anytime during the time period before the polio vaccine and antibiotics were invented.



Think about that for a moment, Mr. Buursma. Don't you think the current families struggling to survive should have the same economic opportunities you did when you were growing up? I do.

If you are concerned about contracting this illness, stay at home, make the proper adjustments, but don't expect our government officials to ignore the rest of the constituents they are obligated to serve.

I take care of my parents to limit their exposure. If you don't have family or friends to fill that need, please let me know. I'll be glad to help you out if that means allowing other people to live their lives like you were able to.

Robby Hoffman
Coloma

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer.

Voting by mail protects democracy and public health

Steve Chapman

If I were a fan of the coronavirus, here's what I'd like to see this fall: crowds of Americans standing in line for minutes or hours in venues where they can easily infect each other. By then, the contagion may be receding thanks to measures to combat it, or it may be going strong. Either way, Election Day could be a great boon to the disease, furnishing a trove of new victims.

There is a way to deprive the pandemic of this extraordinary opportunity: getting as many people as possible to cast their votes by mail instead of in person. It's an entirely doable response. But not everyone thinks saving lives is worth the trouble. One of them is Donald Trump, who voted by mail in Florida's March primary but doesn't think everyone else should.

He took great pride in doing an interview Sunday inside the Lincoln Memorial. This is one of those issues, though, on which he does not ask himself: What would Abe do? We have a good idea – because it was during his presidency that absentee voting by mail originated so that soldiers in the Union Army could participate in the 1864 election.

Just as suppressing the slave states' rebellion was too important to force enlisted men to travel back home to vote, suppressing this virus is too important to force voters to choose between their health and their civic responsibility. And the more people who can be induced to vote by mail, the fewer opportunities there will be for the disease to spread.

We have confirmed the hazards of in-person voting during a pandemic. Illinois went ahead with an election on March 17, days before a statewide stay-at-home order. Gov. J.B. Pritzker said he didn't have the authority to postpone it, but over the following four weeks, the state death toll from COVID-19 rose from 1 to 868.

Wisconsin voters had to troop to the polls on April 7, by which time the danger of doing so had become apparent to everyone. Of those who voted in person or worked at a voting site, 52 tested positive for the virus over the following two weeks.

Five states have also proven the practicality of shifting to voting by mail. Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Utah and Washington send mail-in ballots to every registered voter, eliminating the need to go to the polls. It's simple, efficient, inexpensive and far more sanitary.

It would cost money in the short run, which is why it makes sense for the federal government to provide aid to state governments. Because of the toll from the pandemic and its economic fallout, they are already short of funds. In the long run, the shift would probably save money.

Most states, including Illinois, already allow any voter to request an absentee ballot, while 16 states require a valid excuse. But more than 90 percent of Illinois voters don't bother. Making the process of getting a mail-in ballot automatic would induce many more people to use it.

Even if you prefer voters to exercise the franchise at their local sites – and even if most of them would prefer to – the threat argues for furnishing another option. No one knows how widespread COVID-19 will be come November. A surge in cases, or a deadly mutation of the virus, could make in-person voting even more dangerous.

At worst, sending out ballots provides a workable Plan B in case Plan A proves too hazardous. As the nonpartisan group Reform for Illinois argues, "Sending a ballot is the only way to guarantee that everyone has the option of voting safely on Election Day, even if in-person voting must be restricted for public health reasons."

In New York, which normally requires an excuse for absentee voting Gov. Andrew Cuomo issued an executive order requiring mail ballots to be sent to every registered voter for the June primary.

Trump opposes such a change because voting entirely by mail is "ripe for fraud" and because it "doesn't work out well for Republicans." In fact, states with all-mail elections have experienced very little fraud, and an April Reuters/Ipos poll found that 65 percent of GOP voters favor requiring mail-in ballots for the November election if the pandemic continues. This year, it's older Americans – the most Republican age group – who are most likely to be scared away from the polls.

Plenty of people have died to protect American democracy. No one should have to die to participate in it.

Steve Chapman is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

OBITUARIES

James Dahlke

March 28, 1951 – May 5, 2020

James Dahlke, 69, of St. Joseph passed away Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at his home.

Due to the COVID-19 precautions, private family services and burial will be held, with a public Celebration of Life Service to be announced at a later date. Memorial donations in Jim's name may be made to Berrien County Baptist Church in Stevensville. Those wishing to sign Jim's memory book online may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Jim was born March 28, 1951, in St. Joseph, to Paul and Helen (Peppel) Dahlke. He graduated from St. Joseph High School, class of 1969, and went on to earn an associate's degree from Lake Michigan College. On July 3, 1971, he married his high school sweetheart, Debra Brizendine, in St. Joseph. Jim was employed at Whirlpool Corp as a tool and die maker from 1968 until 1989. In 1989, he decided to pursue his hobby as a beekeeper in a full-time manner and Jim founded J. D.'s Honey Headquarters, which he was currently operating with over 1,500 hives. Jim was a member of Michigan Beekeepers Association and Berrien County Baptist Church. He was an avid hunter and enjoyed hunting trips with his family and friends. Just this past fall he took a record 18-point buck. In his free time, Jim cherished the time spent with his daughters and grandsons.

Jim is survived by his wife, Debra; two daughters, Beth (Jeremy) Dahlke-Kiens of Chicago and Andrea Dahlke of St. Joseph; two grandsons, Isaac and Ezra Dahlke; his sister, Carol Summers of Tucson, Ariz.; his brother, Ronald (Donna) Dahlke of Benton Harbor; brother- and sisters-in-law, Al "Doc" (Deborah) Brizendine of Red Oak, Texas, and Kim Brizendine of Milwaukee; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother-in-law, Jim Brizendine.

Leatrice E. 'Leat' Beckman

July 21, 1927 – May 6, 2020

Leatrice E. "Leat" Beckman, 92, of St. Joseph passed away Wednesday, May 6, 2020, at her home, surrounded by her loving family.

Due to the current COVID-19 precautions, a private family service and burial have been held at Riverview Cemetery. Memorial donations in Leatrice's name may be made to Caring Circle Hospice. Those wishing to sign Leat's memory book online may do so at starks-menchinger.com.

Leat was born July 21, 1927, in Benton Harbor, to William and Marquita (Spangler) Fonger. She graduated from Benton Harbor High School, class of 1945. On July 19, 1947, she married Frederick Beckman in St. Joseph at St. Peter's United Church of Christ. Leat worked for several years at V-M Corporation in Benton Harbor, from 1945-1953 she worked as a secretary at Auto Specialties, and retired from Heath-Zenith after 22 years in 1989. Leat was a long-time member of St. Peter's Church, where she sang in the choir. She cherished the time spent with her family and many friends, and enjoyed many trips to Las Vegas. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her.

Leat is survived by her children, Tracy Pendergrass of St. Joseph, Becky (Spencer) Johnson of St. Joseph and Frederick (Margie) Beckman of Bridgman; grandchildren: Courtney (Nathan) Phillips, Jeremy (Keelin) Johnson, Jay Pendergrass, Nicole Beckman and Tyler Beckman; granddaughter-in-law, Samantha Pendergrass; great-grandchildren: Alexis and Bryce Pendergrass, Ellie and Fox Johnson and Jonah Phillips; and her special niece and long-time partner in crime, Linda Scherer of St. Joseph.

She was preceded by her husband, Fred, in 2005; their daughter, Rory Ann Beckman in 1968; and her grandson, Dustin Pendergrass in 2011.

Leat's family would like to extend a special thank you to Caring Circle Hospice and especially two of their in-home staff, George Stroba and Valencia Clark, for the special care which they afforded her over the last several months.

Death notices

Elizabeth B. "Jill" Bowser, formerly of St. Joseph died May 6, 2020, at West Woods of Niles. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Dana Joy Hawks, 77, of Palmyra, Va., former area resident died May 2, 2020. Thacker Brothers Funeral Home, Palmyra, (434) 589-0920.

Marilyn Lewis, 79, of Watervliet died May 7, 2020, at Medilodge Nursing Home, Kalamazoo. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Bishop John McCoy, 85, of Benton Harbor died April 29, 2020, at home. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Rosie Lee Moore, 74, of Benton Harbor died May 7, 2020, at Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Joyce A. (Robinson) Sullivan, 79, of Boulder, Colo., formerly of South Haven died May 4, 2020, at Shawnee Gardens Assisted Living, Boulder. Murphy & Associates Funeral Home, Boulder, (303) 530-4111.

Michael J. Underwood, 70, of South Haven died May 7, 2020, at Memorial Hospital, South Bend, Ind. Filbrandt Family Funeral Home, South Haven, 637-0333.

Elinor (Tichy) Vitek, 92, of New Troy died May 5, 2020. Swem Chapel and Cremation Services, Buchanan, 469-2233.

Dana Joy Hawks

Aug. 29, 1942 – May 2, 2020

Dana Joy Hawks, 77, of Palmyra, Va., passed away on Saturday, May 2, 2020.

She was born Aug. 29, 1942, in South Haven, and was the daughter of Clarence C. Ullrey and Pauline L. First Ullrey. Dana graduated from Benton Harbor High School in 1960, and from Bronson School of Nursing in 1963. In 1965, she married Richard Hawks, who survives her.

Dana and Richard moved to the Potterville, Grand Ledge, Mich., area in 1967, where Dana worked as a registered nurse throughout mid-Michigan. While there, she was a member of Grand Ledge First United Methodist Church and later became a member of Cunningham United Methodist Church when the family moved to Lake Monticello in 2012. Dana was a polio survivor. She enjoyed spending her time sewing, knitting and was considered an expert quilter. Spending time with her grandchildren was what she enjoyed most of all.

In addition to her husband, Richard, Dana is also survived by a son, Mike Hawks, and his wife, Angie; a daughter, Carla Lee, and her husband, Hector; and her six grandchildren: Austin, Mercy, Robyn and Olive Hawks and Harrison and Alexandra Lee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Cunningham United Methodist Church, 3389 Thomas Jefferson Pkwy., Palmyra, VA 22963.

Thacker Brothers Scottsville Funeral Home is in charge of the arrangements. Condolences may be shared at www.thackerbrothers.com.

Joyce Ann Sullivan

Sept. 26, 1940 – May 4, 2020

Joyce Ann (Robinson) Sullivan died peacefully on Monday, May 4, 2020, at Shawnee Gardens Assisted Living in Boulder, Colo. She was 79.

She is survived by her two adoring daughters, Bridget (Steven Berger) and Siobhan (Lynn Voss); her beloved siblings, Scott, Linda and Steve; her devoted grandson, Owen; her niece, Victoria (Robinson) Waite; her nephew, Ross Robinson; and her companion and best friend of 35 years, John Stadler.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Helen and Ross.

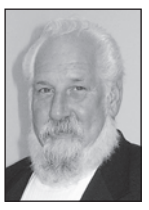
Born in Battle Creek, Mich., Joyce grew up in Chicago and spent her summers at her grandmother's house on Lake Michigan, playing and making mischief with her five girl cousins. After living in Durham, N.C., Mexico City and New Delhi, India, Joyce moved to Poughkeepsie, N.Y., where she completed her B.S. at SUNY New Paltz. She then moved to Boulder to work as a project manager at IBM's World Trade Division.

Joyce was an excellent seamstress and gourmet cook who loved to entertain, act, tutor children, travel and research her family's genealogy and was active in several historical societies. Joyce had many friends and lived a full and happy life.

Private services will be held at the family gravesite in South Haven. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Shawnee Gardens, 4755 Shawnee Place, Boulder, CO 80303.

Michael John Underwood

Aug. 3, 1949 – May 7, 2020



Michael John Underwood, 70, of South Haven passed away Thursday, May 7, 2020, at Memorial Hospital in South Bend, Ind.

He was born Aug. 3, 1949, to Clifford and Margaret (Hinz) Underwood in South Haven. He attended South Haven High School. Mike served his country in the United States Navy onboard the USS Samuel Gompers. He later drove truck for SE Overton and CB Christian Moving Company before hauling iron in the trucking industry. Mike was a man of big ideas, fierce ambition, hard drive and strong work ethic. His love for the open road was only second to the love he had for his family and friends. He had a passion for anything that went fast, especially cars and Harley's. He loved going to the movies, watching TV and golfing, especially with John.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Clifford and Margaret Underwood; and brother-in-law, James Hollis.

Mike is survived by his best friend and companion, Pamela Rospopo, and their four-legged girls, Scarlett and Ginger; his children with Jane Underwood, Rachael (Jeff) Morris of Grand Junction and Mike (Laura) Underwood and Elizabeth Underwood, both of South Haven; granddaughters, Liza Morris and Addison Gumpert; siblings, Bonnie (John) Wortman, Cindy Hollis and Joe (Cathy) Underwood, all of South Haven; many cousins, nieces and nephews; and Pam's family who loved him as their own: Angie Licthsinn, Justin (Carly, Caleb and Regan) Rospopo and Rich Rospopo, Susan Barger and Mike and Steve Barger.

Private memorial services will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, May 13, with Pastor Gary Guthrie officiating at the funeral home. Kindly share your thoughts and memories and view the live-streamed memorial service at www.FilbrandtFFH.com. The family is being helped by the Filbrandt Family Funeral Home in South Haven, 637-0333.

Roy 'Bud' Davis

July 24, 1924 – May 5, 2020

The family of Dr. Roy "Bud" Davis shares the sad news of his passing on Tuesday, May 5, 2020, at his home, the Vineyard Assisted Living Community in Kalamazoo, surrounded by many who loved him.

Bud was born to Edith and Leland (Lee) Davis on July 24, 1924, and raised in Hartford with his sister, Wilma, spending most of his years on Linden Street, the location of his parents' floral business and home. He learned to drive early so he could help his father with deliveries, and always claimed that was the beginning of his love affair with cars. He also credited his love of movies to sister, Wilma, who let him tag along with her to see the latest showing at the Heart Theatre on Main Street.

In 1942, Bud's graduation from Hartford High School was the kickoff for several long and successful careers. First, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and became a pilot. He graduated from flight training as a 2nd Lt. on Aug 4, 1944, and was stationed in India and Burma, one of the youngest pilots in his outfit to fly the Hump in World War II. After the war ended, Bud married his high school sweetheart, Marion Kling, who had graduated from nurses' training. He received his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Western Michigan University. These degrees led to his second career which included teaching at Watervliet High School, as well as at St. Joseph High School and at Lake Michigan College.

Bud continued his education at Yale University on a John Hay Fellowship, which was followed by a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, where he taught while completing his degree. He also taught literature and writing in Ann Arbor Public Schools, and remained active in training English teachers for the U of M. Marion and Bud lived in Ann Arbor until retirement, when they returned home to Hartford, where Bud continued his third career as a writer. He had been writing a feature column for "The Tri-City Record" since 1985 and leaves behind several as yet unpublished stories. He also leaves a yet unpublished book, "The End of the Line (Flying the Hump in WWII)." Bud's three published books include "Student and Teacher Perceptions of a Peak Learning Experience," "Paw Paw River Times and People," and "Paw Paw River Days & Nights."

Most important to Bud were his people! Those who preceded him in death include his wife and Chief Accountant, Marion; his oldest daughter, Deb Connor; and his sister, Wilma Weston.

Surviving family members include: Gary (Deb) Connor of Farmington, Rebecca (Jim) Steele of Kalamazoo, Rob Davis of Hartford and Laurel (Jim) Jelenek of Holt; grandchildren: Catherine Connor of Northville, Dr. Michael (Beth) Connor of Portland, Ore., Danielle (Michael) Aschenbrener of Denver, Kristy (Rob) Davila of San Antonio, Heather Banks of New Baltimore and Kelly (Brad) Chandler of Lansing; great-grandchildren: Maxwell Aschenbrener, Valentina Aschenbrener, Emma Davila, Davis Davila, Alexander Bell and Landon Chandler; many nieces and nephews; and all of the wonderful staff at Vineyard Assisted Living.

Due to current social distancing restrictions, Bud will be laid to rest next to Marion with a small private graveside service in Maple Hill Cemetery. There will be a Memorial Mass and Celebration of Life luncheon later this summer for all who wish to attend. The family has entrusted Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

Elinor (Tichy) Vitek

March 4, 1928 – May 5, 2020

Elinor (Tichy) Vitek, 92, passed away peacefully on May 5, 2020.

She was born on March 4, 1928, in Chicago, to Charles and Frances Tichy. She married John Vitek Jr. on Aug. 6, 1949, in Sawyer. He preceded her in death in October of 2005.

Elinor is survived by her daughter, Ellen (Alan) Pauly of South Carolina; her sons, John Vitek of St. Joseph and Jay Vitek of Buchanan; and her two grandchildren, Quinn and Lane Vitek.

There will be no services or visitation, but messages of condolence are welcomed at the Swem Chapel website at www.Swemchapel.com.

John E. McCoy

Dec. 10, 1934 – April 29, 2020

Bishop Designee, Elder John E. McCoy, pastor of Trinity C.O.G.I.C. Benton Harbor, departed this life Wednesday, April 29, 2020, at 7:26 a.m., peacefully with family.

John Edward McCoy was born Dec. 10, 1934, in Tyronza, Ark., and resided in Benton Harbor for over 70 years. In the early 1950s he was known as a Golden Glove prize boxer. He was employed at Superior Steel, Indiana Electric Co. and Zales Jewelry Store, just to name a few. After working with Kmart Corporation for over 30 years, he retired in 1997.

In 2019, under the leadership of the late Bishop Nathaniel W. Wells, prelate of the Western Michigan Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, Church Of God In Christ, the decision of elevation was appointed as Bishop Designee.

Bishop Designee John McCoy leaves to cherish his memory: his loving wife of 64 years, Anna Louise McCoy; six children: Etta (William) Fulton, Beverly (Joseph) Brown and John (Angelia) McCoy, all of Benton Harbor, Bruce (Shirley) McCoy of Grand Rapids, Tracy (Trenton) Morris of Tallahassee, Fla., and LaMont McCoy of Kalamazoo; 16 grandchildren; 51 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; four brothers: Paul McCoy, Robert (Pam) McCoy, Calvin (Wilona) McCoy and Steven (Patricia) McCoy; seven sisters: Rosie (Edward) Hudson, Ruthie Haralson, Annie Queen (Anthony) Rolling, Virgie (Michael) Rollins, Darlene McCoy, Katie McCoy and Helena Allen; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death are: grandchildren: Marquise Thompson, Gerome Randolph, Samuel Curtis Jr., Savod Curtis and Avery Curtis; father, John H. McCoy; mother, Annie L. McCoy; brothers, Searcy McCoy and Leonard McCoy; and sisters, Maxine Robinson and Dorothy Clark.

A private immediate service will be held.

Marilyn Lewis

Oct. 20, 1940 – May 7, 2020

Marilyn Lewis, 79, of Watervliet passed away peacefully on Thursday, May 7, 2020, at Medilodge Nursing Home in Kalamazoo.

Private family services will be held at Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home in Coloma, followed by burial in Keeler Cemetery. Memorials in Marilyn's honor may be made to the Michigan Alzheimer's Association and either mailed or dropped off at the funeral home. Those wishing to leave a message or share a memory with the family online may do so at www.duffieldpastrick.com.

Marilyn was born Oct. 20, 1940, in Coloma, to Frank and Virginia Willming. She graduated from Watervliet High School and shortly thereafter, on June 13, 1959, she married Gary Lewis. The couple enjoyed 57 years together prior to Gary's passing in 2017. They enjoyed many family trips, which included going to their cottage in Baldwin and later to their cottage in Ontario, Canada. Marilyn also loved going to Sandy Pines Recreational Community with the family.

Marilyn was the family caretaker. She was an amazing daughter to her parents and took great joy and pride in caring for her own children and grandchildren. She was a wonderful cook and enjoyed shopping and ironing clothes. Prior to her retirement, Marilyn had worked at Gast Manufacturing for 26 years.

Marilyn is survived by her son, Gary Lewis Jr. of Sister Lakes; her daughter, Linda (Scott) Brown of Kalamazoo; four grandchildren: Alyssa Lucker, Blake Lucker, Taylor Lewis and Forrest Lewis; and three great-grandchildren, Lea, Landon and Olivia.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Gary; her parents, Frank and Virginia; her sister, Judy Willming; and her brother, Frank Willming Jr.

Getting it straight

The Herald-Palladium makes every effort to ensure accuracy in its stories.

If you think there is an error, please contact the editor of the page on which it occurred. If you are unsure of whom to contact, call Local News Editor Dale Brewer at 429-3797.

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To place a classified ad in The Herald-Palladium, please call 429-4484. Phones are open Mondays through Fridays.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago – 1995

Here's the scoop on St. Joseph's 9-month-old pooper-scooper ordinance: Not enough people are scooping.

City commissioners are trying to figure out how to make the ordinance more enforceable without creating a bigger mess than they're cleaning up. All they agreed on Monday night was to contact other communities with similar ordinances to find out how they enforce them.

35 years ago – 1985

May Schultz, an affiliate of Conran's Glass Works, St. Joseph, has designed and constructed a St. Joseph logo in stained glass and has donated the art piece to St. Joseph Today. The association will rotate the display of the art piece in stores winning the highest honors in the St. Joseph Today Mystery Shopper Program hospitality contest, according to Kathryn Zerler, executive director.

50 years ago – 1970

Forrest Merritt, deputy superintendent of Coloma Community Schools, will be honored during a special Forrest Merritt Day tomorrow as he prepares to retire after 45 years in education. A reception will be held at Washington Elementary School, followed by a dinner at the high school cafeteria. Honors will be shared with his wife, Jessie Merritt, who will also retire at the end of the school year after 43 years in education.

Merritt was born in Eau Claire. His father was a teacher and his five brothers and sisters all became teachers.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, May 9, the 130th day of 2020. There are 236 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On May 9, 1945, with World War II in Europe at an end, Soviet forces liberated Czechoslovakia from Nazi occupation. U.S. officials announced that a midnight entertainment curfew was being lifted immediately.

On this date:

In 1712, the Carolina Colony was officially divided into two entities: North Carolina and South Carolina.

In 1864, Union Maj. Gen. John Sedgwick was killed by a Confederate sniper during the Civil War Battle of Spotsylvania in Virginia.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson, acting on a joint congressional resolution, signed a proclamation designating the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

In 1926, Americans Richard Byrd and Floyd Bennett supposedly became the first men to fly over the North Pole. (However, U.S. scholars announced in 1996 that their examination of Byrd's flight diary suggested he had turned back 150 miles short of his goal.)

In 1958, "Vertigo," Alfred Hitchcock's eerie thriller starring James Stewart and Kim Novak, premiered in San Francisco, the movie's setting.

In 1961, in a speech to the National Association of Broadcasters, Federal Communications Commission Chairman Newton N. Minow decried the majority of television programming as a "vast wasteland."

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Sunny	Partly Cloudy	Few Showers	Few Showers	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
50°	43°	45° / 33°	43° / 35°	50° / 44°	54° / 46°

Local Outlook

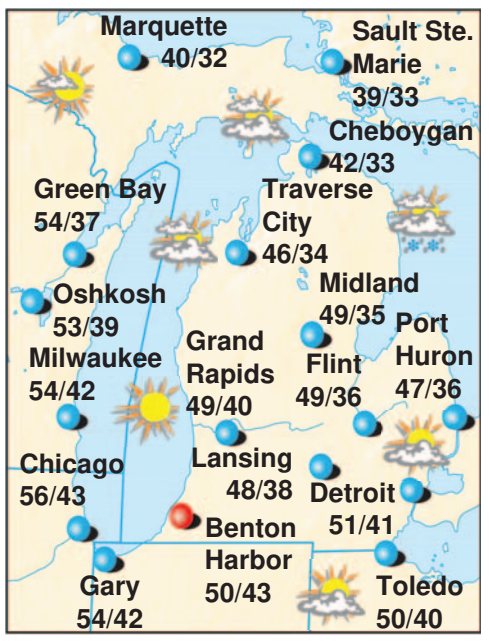
Today we will see sunny skies with a high temperature of 50°, humidity of 38%. West wind 9 to 16 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers, overnight low of 43°. Southwest wind 5 to 9 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 39°.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 6:30 a.m.
Sunset ..... 8:54 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 11:49 p.m.
Moonset ..... 8:15 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
5/14	5/22	5/29	6/5

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	42°
Low	29°R
Normal High	68°
Normal Low	46°
Record High	90° in 2014
Record Low	33° in 2017

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.07"
Normal for month	1.05"
Year to date	12.31"
Normal Year to date	10.23"

Air Quality

Yesterday 45
Main Offender ..... Particles

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

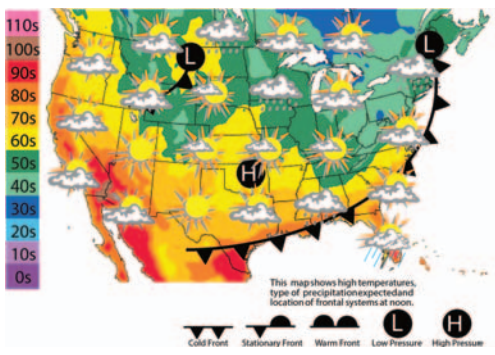
Weather Trivia

What U.S. city holds the record for the highest temperature?

Answer: Yuma, Ariz., with a high of 124 degrees.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for May 9, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, W wind 13 to 17 kt, with gusts as high as 23 kt. Sunny. Waves 3 to 4 ft. Water temperature 48 degrees. Tonight, SSW wind 9 to 12 kt. A slight chance of showers. Waves around 2 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with isolated rain and snow, highs in the 30s and 40s. West northwest wind 14 to 18 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with highs in the 30s. West northwest wind 7 to 14 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be partly cloudy with highs in the 40s and 50s. West wind 9 to 16 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Sunday with scattered showers and rain, highs in the 30s and 40s. Southwest wind 9 mph.

COVID

From page A1

has four cases. These are just totals and do not include recoveries or deaths.

"It's worth noting that you can do all the right things and still potentially have disease transmission," Britten said. "If and when there is transmission in some of these facilities, it's not necessarily that the facility is doing the wrong things, but there are a lot of things you can do to minimize risk. We just can't get to zero risk."

She said as testing capabilities increase, all numbers will continue to rise.

Testing

With the addition of a third drive-thru COVID-19 testing site in Berrien County on Friday, the health department is now trying to get more testing in the south part of the county.

"We know that there's just less access to testing down there. So we're working to make that happen," Britten said.

Hamel said antibody tests are still scarce, but Spectrum Health Lakeland is committed to ramping up antibody testing as soon as possible.

"We're sort of dedicating those tests right now to people who think they had the virus and want to donate convalescent plasma," Hamel said. "That's a perfect use of the tests because it confirms a diagnosis and helps save lives."

Friday count update

Berrien County now has had a total of 376 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19. The number of active cases is 140, with 216 people having recovered, plus 22 deaths.

There are 174 presumed positive cases.

The Van Buren Cass District Health Department released its weekly number of recovered people Friday.

In Van Buren County, 26 have now recovered and in Cass County, 18 people have recovered.

That makes 53 active cases in Van Buren County, with two deaths, and 19 active cases in Cass County, with two deaths.

Local numbers and information can be found at www.bchdmi.org, and at www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19. For state numbers, visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

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Sharing in their success

Dowagiac business issues $10K donation for youth training program

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

DOWAGIAC — It wasn't like most check presentations.

As a handful of people kept a safe distance in the showroom of Lyons Industries in Dowagiac, Jobs for Michigan Graduates student Auston Kuhl accepted a $10,000 check with a pair of tongs and a face mask.

The unique hand-off was in line with several precautions the company has taken since the COVID-19 pandemic hit Southwest Michigan.

Handing the check off was Lance Lyons, president of Lyons Industries, whose company chose to donate $10,000 to the Jobs for Michigan Graduates program run by Youth Solutions in Benton Harbor.

"We're fortunate to be an essential business, running at full capacity and it's important to share our success," Lyons said Friday.

The money awarded to JMG from Lyons Industries is part of #Project MIYouth, a fundraising effort that began Tuesday with the goal to raise $100,000 in 90 days. The money raised will support 3,280 youth across Michigan, including over 778 youngsters in Southwest Michigan.

As of Friday, JMG is about a third of the way to its goal.

Jason Ortiz, a JMG participant that earned his GED from Bridge Academy in Benton Harbor, secured a job at Lyons following his graduation. He was also present for the check ceremony.

"Jason is an asset to our team, a smart and hard worker. If I could have 10 more like him, I would take them all," Lyons said. "JMG is a great program and benefits both the graduates and the companies that hire them."

See **SUCCESS**, page B2

Tony Wittkowski / HP staff

Jobs for Michigan Graduates student Auston Kuhl accepts a check – at a safe distance – from Lyons Industries President Lance Lyons on Friday for $10,000, which will go toward funding the JMG program.

PROTESTING IN HARTFORD

Don Campbell / HP staff

Lauri Kovalcik, left, of Hartford, waves an American flag Friday as she protests Gov. Whitmer's decision to keep certain small businesses closed, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in downtown Hartford. She was joined by a couple of dozen others.

Hartford transplant recipient celebrates 5-year 'kidney-versary'

Mother's Day takes on extra meaning for mother, son

By HP STAFF

HARTFORD — Five years ago on May 1, just in time for Mother's Day that year, Kevin Klug, a civil engineer from Waterford Township, gave his mom the precious gift of life – and an actual part of himself.

He donated a kidney to his mom, Margo Klug, 67, of Hartford and the two now celebrate their "kidney-versary" in May every year.

"It's a gift I can never really repay him for," Margo Klug told the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.

The day after the transplant, she named her kidney, "The Whiz Kid," since she received it from her 32-year-old "kid" and it started working right away.

Thanks to her son, Margo Klug can still work on the family farm with her husband, Dan, where they grow apples and peaches.

"I can farm, play with the grandkids and live life to the fullest," she said. "For me, it has been a remarkable journey. Because I had a living donor, I did not have to go on dialysis."

In the early 2000s, Margo Klug's doctor told her that her blood pressure was high and started her on medication. Not long after, her kidney function decreased and a nephrologist told her she was in stage 4 kidney disease.

In 2014, even after trying to improve her health with better nutrition and physical activity, her kidney function worsened.

"If you need a kidney, I want to give you one," Kevin Klug said after he knew about her illness. "I had done some research on kidney donation when it became clear that my mom's kidney function was decreasing despite her best efforts.

See **KIDNEY**, page B2

Photo provided

Margo Klug of Hartford sits with her son Kevin Klug, who donated one of his kidneys to her five years ago. They celebrate every May, with this being their five-year "kidney-versary."

Police probe possible drowning at Rug Lake

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

BUCHANAN — A man was found dead Thursday after a state police trooper spotted an overturned rowboat on Rug Lake off Gardner Road in Weesaw Township.

Lt. DuWayne Robinson, public information officer for Michigan State Police Fifth District Headquarters said it happened at 2:13 p.m. Thursday.

Trooper Macon Derleth said he spotted the overturned boat while he was on routine patrol in the area. He approached to investigate and saw some people gathered near the lake. The people, who live nearby, told the trooper they had a relative who had recently been fishing using the boat that was overturned in the lake.

Derleth said he grabbed a canoe from a nearby dock, entered the water, and found an unconscious person near the boat who he determined to be deceased. Police identified the victim only as an 82-year-old man from Kalamazoo, and said they will release his name later.

Robinson said in a news release that the man was not wearing a personal flotation device, nor was one found on the boat. It is not known whether the man suffered a medical condition before landing in the water.

Derleth said Thursday was a nice, sunny day and the lake water did not appear to be rough.

Further investigation into the cause of death is being conducted by the Medical Examiner's Office at Western Michigan University Medical Center, Robinson said

State troopers were assisted by Weesaw Township Fire and Rescue, Buchanan Township Fire Department, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division, Baroda-Lake Township Police, Berrien County weighmaster, Medic 1 ambulance and the state police Niles Post chaplain.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Ask a Cop

STEVE NEUBECKER
St. Joseph
Public Safety Director

Wearing masks indoors: Law, or suggestion?

I have a question or two about wearing a mask in a building. Is it a law, or request? I have seen several people in a building that are not wearing a mask. If it is a law and a police officer observes a person not wearing a mask, can the officer issue a ticket?

Earl, from St. Joseph

This is a very confusing and rapidly changing time we're all living in, and I understand why you have questions. Hopefully, the way I've explained things below will help not only you, but other members of the community who are wondering these same things.

The executive orders requiring citizens to wear face masks in "enclosed public places," if they are able to medically tolerate them, does not carry a fine or criminal penalty (see Executive Orders 2020-70 and 2020-71). This is an order enacted by Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to keep citizens safe without unjustly fining citizens

See **COP**, page B2

BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

Sentences

St. Joseph

Drugs/firearms

William H. Beecham III, 28, of Union Street, Benton Harbor, 54 months to 20 years in prison, credit for 71 days served, and $1,298 in fines and costs for delivery/manufacture of narcotics, less than 50 grams cocaine; and a consecutive term of 40 months to 5 years for possession of a firearm by a felon Sept. 16, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Tampering with tether

Heather L. McKie, 31, of Highland Avenue, St. Joseph, 150 days in jail, credit for 52 days served, for tampering with an electronic device, a jail tether, Feb. 12 in St. Joseph Township.

Assault

Michael D. Hackney, 36, of Baird Street, Benton Harbor, 38 months to 5 years in prison and $198 in costs for domestic violence third offense, an assault on a woman, Dec. 1, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Weapons violations

Anthony W. Glaspie, 39, of Burgoyne Road, Berrien Springs, 30 days in jail and $198 in costs for attempted possession of a weapon, a lighter, in a jail March 13 at the Berrien County jail in St. Joseph.

Darius D. Bloomer, 38, of Agard Street, Benton Harbor, 18 months to 5 years in prison, $198 in costs and forfeiture of a semi-automatic handgun for possession of a firearm by a felon Feb. 10 in Benton Harbor.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Six ways small business owners can become better sales people

Many entrepreneurs struggle with the sales responsibilities that come with owning a business.

Selling skills don't come naturally for everyone. But if you're a business-to-business (B2B) small business owner, they're essential if you want to successfully build relationships with potential customers and generate interest in your products and services.

Fortunately, with some concentrated effort and attention, you can improve your sales skills and boost your confidence when talking with prospects about your company's offerings.

Here are tips on being better at sales:

Open the door to a conversation rather than jumping right into a sales pitch.

Learn to be better listener.

SCORE

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

By talking less and giving the customer room to discuss their challenges, you can build trust and demonstrate you're there to help rather than drone on and on about what you're selling.

Focus on solving problems

If you can demonstrate how your products and services will save time, reduce work, cut costs, etc., people will be more apt to listen and learn more about what your company offers.

Make customer service a priority

Remember that keeping your existing customers happy is one of the best ways to attract new customers. Word of mouth will always be one of the most effective sales tactics.

Focus on upselling

Existing customers who already know your value are an easier sell than convincing new prospects to buy from you. Take opportunities to leverage your relationships with satisfied customers and see if there are additional challenges you can help them overcome.

Realize that not all leads are good leads

You'll waste time and lose motivation if you chase leads that aren't a good fit for your solutions. Set criteria (minimum net income, number of employees, etc.) for identifying whether or not a lead is a viable prospect before you spend time trying to nurture the relationship.

Realize it takes time

Sales cycles vary depending on the type of product or service and the audience. For example, selling B2B big-ticket technology products will nearly always have a longer sales cycle than selling office stationary. Patience is key.

Don't expect to close a sale on the first or second contact with prospects. B2B selling often requires multiple conversations before customers will sign on the dotted line.

If you're interested in improving your sales skills, SCORE can help. We offer various articles, webinars, and other resources online that provide insight and tips.

Also consider reaching out to your local SCORE chapter to connect with a mentor.

Mentoring from the experts at SCORE is free of charge, and it can provide guidance and feedback as you develop your sales abilities and tackle the other aspects of running your small business.

NEW IN BUSINESS

Honor Credit Union donates masks

BRRIEN SPRINGS — Honor Credit Union is helping a local group of volunteers who have come together virtually to sew masks for the community with the donation of a $500 gift card for supplies.

Retired nurse Chris VanDenburgh leads a growing virtual group of mask makers through a Facebook group called Making Face Masks Volunteers to provide masks for health care and other frontline workers in Michigan.

The efforts began when VanDenburgh received a message from a nurse who asked if masks could be made for the nurses at Spectrum Health Lakeland in St. Joseph. VanDenburgh jumped to the occasion and bought several yards of material and began making masks that afternoon.

Some of the organizations impacted through the donation of the face masks are Spectrum Health, Area Agency on Aging, Bronson Methodist Hospital, United Way of Southwest Michigan and the Berrien County Health Department. Together they have donated 3,500 masks so far. These efforts are funded by the volunteers of the group or through any donations received.

For more information, search "Making Face Masks Volunteers" on Facebook.

Carvana launches car-buying service in BH

BENTON HARBOR — Carvana, an e-commerce platform for buying and selling used cars, is offering home delivery in the Benton Harbor area to provide those who need to buy a vehicle with an online car-buying experience.

Carvana provides customers with a safe way to buy a vehicle online from home.

This includes a seven-day return policy, which gives customers a week to ensure their vehicle fits their life. Customers can shop more than 20,000 vehicles on Carvana.com with 360-degree virtual vehicle tours.

COP

From page B1

who may just be confused or lack the appropriate guidance. These are the current guidelines at the time this is being written and are subject to change at any time.

The purpose of the orders' current wording/enforcement is to give legal grounds for those operating governmental buildings, and other "enclosed public places" that remain open to the public, to refuse service or entry to customers or citizens who are not wearing a face covering.

Gov. Whitmer's executive orders specifically include supermarkets, grocery stores and pharmacies as public places where face coverings must be worn. Keep in mind these face coverings are not required to be medical grade. They can be homemade masks, scarves, or bandanas that cover the mouth and nose.

As I have stated above, this is a rapidly evolving situation and the current enforcement actions and/or guidelines may change significantly over the coming days and weeks. We will do our best to keep the public informed on any and all changes.

As always, do not hesitate to contact our department with any other questions or concerns you may have.

Send in your questions about the law; get an answer from those who enforce it. Email your question to AskACop@TheHP.com and it may be featured in an article.

Restaurants push Whitmer for May 29 reopening

By DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

LANSING — Michigan restaurants and bars on Friday pushed Gov. Gretchen Whitmer to let them reopen in three weeks, saying they need a lifeline to survive financially and a chance to show the public it is safe to return.

The venues have been closed to dine-in customers since March 16. They hope to resume service on May 29, when restrictions are set to end unless the governor extends them.

Guidance released Friday by the Michigan Restaurant & Lodging Association to help restaurants prepare to reopen their dining rooms includes procedures for cleaning, screening workers, providing them masks and gloves, and keeping customers, tables and bar stools 6 feet apart.

"The No. 1 challenge for restaurants is still going to be convincing the public that restaurants are safe to return to. But they need to be given that chance," said Justin Winslow, president and CEO of the industry group. He estimated that more than 20 restaurants a day will close for good this month despite the federal coronavirus relief package.

Whitmer spokeswoman Tiffany Brown said the governor "will continue to listen to medical experts and put the health and safety of Michiganders first."

Paul Sancya / AP

Vasi's Cafe is shown closed in St. Clair Shores on Friday. Many restaurants have closed due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Whitmer indicated Thursday that bars and restaurants will not reopen until the state reaches the fifth of six phases for reengaging the economy. It is now in the third phase, during which the governor has allowed construction, real estate, outdoor work and – starting this Monday – manufacturing to resume.

For Michigan to progress to the fifth phase, coronavirus cases and deaths would have to reach "low absolute rates per capita," hospital capacity would need to be "very strong," and "robust" testing and contact tracing would have to be in place, according to a chart released by Whitmer.

"There's not a lot of clarity there. There's no date certain. All of that feels pretty malleable, and this industry needs some clarity and guidance because they're closing," Winslow said.

With the need for restaurants to spread dine-in customers apart, he said, the organization is speaking with municipalities and the state Liquor Control Commission about expediting the regulatory process to open patios. Restaurants, bars and cafes likely will propose new ways to use parking lots and streets closed to traffic to effectively operate in less densely packed spaces, he said.

Ohio bars and restaurants can fully reopen on May 21, with outside dining allowed on May 15. Ohio has about half of Michigan's 46,300 COVID-19 cases and less than a third of the death toll, which is nearly 4,400. Michigan on Friday reported 50 additional deaths and 680 more cases.

The seven-day rolling average of new cases continued to decline, for the sixth consecutive day, and was a third of the peak from a month ago.

Whitmer said Thursday that the state has had a "uniquely tough time" with the disease, and she had to be aggressive with her orders.

"We have to reengage like a dial, not a switch that goes on or off, but a dial that we can turn," she said. "We can continue to turn the intensity up if everyone does their part. We have to remember the threat of a second wave is very real."

The Republican-led Legislature this week sued to challenge the validity of Whitmer's stay-at-home order, which is set to last at least until May 28. State Court of Claims Judge Cythia Stephens on Friday set oral arguments for May 15.

Separately, Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson said roughly 900 employees will continue to be temporarily laid off for another week. Most work in branch offices that are closed.

About 2,000 other state workers will return next week after a two-week furlough. They will work from home, the state budget office said.

$10,000 fine closes probe into utility's polar vortex fire

RICHMOND (AP) — Consumers Energy agreed to pay a $10,000 to settle an investigation of a natural gas fire in southeastern Michigan that forced people to conserve heat for a few days during a polar vortex in 2019, state regulators said Friday.

The Michigan Public Service Commission accepted the findings of its staff, which found that the fire was caused by a voltage spike. A plume of natural gas was released at a major gas compressor station in Macomb County.

"Combined with record-low temperatures and high winds blanketing the state, the natural gas did not disperse as it typically would and came into contact with nearby plant equipment that operates at a high temperature, thereby igniting the airborne gas and causing the fire," the commission said in a statement.

Commission staff identified a violation of federal safety standards.

The fire forced the company to restrict gas service to industrial customers and ask residents to set thermostats at 65 degrees or lower for a few days. Parts of the Lower Peninsula had received more than a foot of snow in late January 2019, and wind chills were 20 degrees below zero.

Todd McIntur / APf

Fire comes out of the top of two silo-looking structures at the compressor station at Consumers Energy in Armada Township in 2019.

SUCCESS

From page B1

Jobs for Michigan's Graduates is a program of Youth Solutions, a nonprofit support system focused on sustainable and successful employment, education and life skills.

Since 2008, the program has lifted nearly 16,000 vulnerable and disadvantaged young people in Michigan from economic hardship to prosperity.

Mollie Waller, deputy director for Youth Solutions, said the students who are taking part in the program are the ones who have been hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic when it comes to job loss.

"They're getting laid off at rates twice to three times more than other age groups," Waller said. "This is one way we can help provide the services that these youths need."

In addition to being laid off at higher rates, Waller said often they are reaching out to JMG specialists for access to things like food and shelter.

She said a lot of participants have to drive to library parking lots in order to access the internet for assignments. Since some don't have broadband internet or Wi-Fi, some JMG specialists are delivering and picking up assignments to keep everyone on track for the program.

"Our specialists are working to keep them engaged," Waller said. "Their skill development will help them in what is sure to be a competitive labor market as the economy begins to recover."

Kuhl, who accepted the check on behalf of the nonprofit organization, is a JMG participant at Dowagiac High School who said he finds great value in the program.

"JMG has helped me be more outgoing and connect with others that are learning these skills, like me," he said.

To invest in the program and contribute to the fundraising goal, visit www.OurYouthSolutions.org/SupportJMG.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

KIDNEY

From page B1

There was little to no long-term risk for me and potential significant increases in mom's quality of life by her not going on dialysis. The surgery pain for a few weeks for me was not a concern."

Margo Klug was evaluated at Michigan Medicine and accepted into their transplant program.

Kevin Klug, Margo's youngest song, said he was determined to find a living donor for his mom if they didn't match.

As she researched kidney disease, Margo Klug found the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM).

"I will always be thankful to the National Kidney Foundation and the NKFM for being such excellent resources during my kidney disease to kidney transplant journey," she said.

In January 2015, Kevin Klug learned that he needed to lose 30 pounds to be his mom's donor. In March, after working hard to lose the weight, he asked his mom, "When do you want your kidney?" She was proud of her son for losing the weight and optimistically said, "May 1."

By late March, her kidney function had dropped lower. She felt tired and cold all the time. Looking back, she said that her thinking was fuzzy, food tasted awful, and she had a bad taste in her mouth.

As the day of the transplant drew closer, Margo made Kevin a little kidney out of scrap yarn and surprised him with it.

"Wanna trade?" she had asked.

After a successful transplant, she began volunteering as a kidney transplant peer mentor, supporting others through their transplant journeys. She also visits dialysis centers to talk about transplants.

"There's a lot of misinformation out there," she said. "I tell people that my kidney disease was due to high blood pressure. I still have chronic kidney disease – I just had a transplant as a treatment."

This May, the Klug extended family will miss the NKFM Kidney Walk at the Detroit Zoo, currently postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. They hope to attend the rescheduled in-person walk on Aug. 23 or do the virtual walk that is also being offered. For more information about the walk, visit nkfm.org/kidney-walks.

"With our family being directly affected by kidney disease, and benefiting from NKFM help, we are glad to give back and help bring awareness and funding to continue the good work," Kevin Klug said. "The timing of the walk each year is so close to the anniversary of when the kidney transplant for my mom happened, so it also is a celebration for us."

Margo Klug echoed that sentiment.

"It's a way to give back and it's really important. The walk is so critical for anyone battling kidney disease because lots of time you are the only one you know with it," she said.

Rent strike: The pros and cons of protesting for financial relief

Michelle Singletary

For the tens of millions of people who are newly unemployed – and others who still have jobs but whose income has been severely reduced – the novel coronavirus has made it harder to keep a roof over their heads.

Even before this worldwide health crisis, many families were living on the financial edge. And now, the fallout from the pandemic has pushed them over.

Some tenants have banded together in not paying their rent, going on a "rent strike" to protest for financial relief from the government. Here are some questions and answers on the pros and cons of such a move.

Q: Should I participate in a renters' strike?

A: On Twitter, #Cancel Rent and #CantPayMay have been trending in response to a staggering unemployment rate caused by businesses closing in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Tenant groups and community advocates have organized one nationwide strike called "We Strike Together" to push the federal government to provide renters with more coronavirus-related financial aid.

This movement is not without merit.

COVID-19 has exacerbated the affordable housing crisis. And the start of each new month brings more financial anxiety.

"Rent strikes reflect public anger over the way that the housing system is designed to benefit real estate interests over the rest of society," said Shamus Roller, executive director of the National Housing Law Project (NHLP). "The federal government needs to step in to help protect renters and struggling landlords by providing rent relief."

The Census Bureau's American Community Survey found that there were 44 million renter households in 2018. The COVID-19 crisis has disproportionately affected renters, according to a recent report by Dan Magder, chief executive of Center Creek Homes, and Laurie Goodman, vice president at the Urban Institute and co-director of its Housing Finance Policy Center.

The lack of affordable housing forces renters to spend too much of their monthly income on their homes – more than half of their income in high-cost areas. This leaves little room to save for a financial crisis.

"Policymakers need to address the stress that renters have from the COVID-19 crisis and head off a worsening situation that could include mass evictions, deteriorating housing stock, and even a real estate or housing market crash," Goodman and Magder write.

Q: So that makes a compelling case that it's in the public interest for renters to strike. What's the argument for the other side?

A: Not surprisingly, landlords, with their own bills and mortgages to pay, argue that rent strikes will end up hurting the economy even further. Pension funds invest in commercial real estate, including apartment complexes. Owners of both large and small apartment complexes could be forced into foreclosure, reducing the inventory of rental units and ultimately pushing up rent prices. With reduced income, landlords will start to lay off workers, such as leasing agents and maintenance crews.

"What the owner will do when he or she gets no rent is look to all the payments that have to be made on a monthly basis: their mortgage, their payroll, their taxes, their insurance, and their utilities," said Doug Bibby, president of the National Multifamily Housing Council (NMHC). "And the first thing to go is going to be the payroll."

Q: What's the potential downside to me?

A: There is a risk in joining a renters' strike. So, you need to ask yourself what kind of relationship you will have with your landlord once the strike ends.

At some point, you will have to negotiate with your landlord about how to catch up on past rent. You may need a break on rental payments going forward if the spread of COVID-19 doesn't slow down enough to get people back to work.

Then there is the matter of your credit history. Your landlord may report your late payments to the credit bureaus, a red flag that could hinder your ability to find another rental.

And consider whom you are striking against.

"Despite headlines in recent years about large institutional investors moving into the single-family rental space, the overwhelming majority of units, 88 percent of single-family rentals, are owned by mom-and-pops or small businesses who own no more than 10 units," according to the Urban Institute report.

Your landlord may be in just as much financial distress as you are.

"There are many smaller landlords who are also struggling during this time," NHLP's Roller said. "It's not in the best interest of renters if the end result of this crisis is that the rental market becomes even more dominated by real estate investment trusts and large corporations."

Change has often happened because individuals were willing to make a sacrifice even at a great financial cost to themselves. Just be sure you understand the risks and plan for the consequences of participating in a rental strike.

Ask the Fool

Value Is Relative

Q How can a $20 stock be more overvalued than a $100 stock? — *G.H., Houston*

A You need to look beyond the price to the underlying value. After all, a $150,000 Rolls Royce could be considered more of a bargain than a $75,000 Volkswagen. To get an idea of how under- or overvalued a stock is, compare its price to other measures, such as its earnings, sales or cash flow.

For example, imagine Mulder Inc. and Scully Co. — each with a share price of $48. If Mulder's earnings per share (EPS) over the past 12 months are $3, then its price-to-earnings (P/E) ratio (price divided by EPS) is 16. If Scully's EPS is $2, its P/E ratio is higher, at 24. You'd have to pay $16 for each dollar of Mulder's earnings and $24 for each dollar of Scully's earnings, suggesting that Mulder stock is more of a bargain.

You need to look at more numbers than that, though. For example, assess each company's cash and debt levels, and whether its revenue, earnings and profit margins are growing — and at what rates. Sometimes the company with a higher valuation can still be the better buy if it has more competitive advantages and growth potential.

***

Q What does it mean if an investor is "long" or "short"? — *T.K., online*

A If an investor is "long" on a stock, it means they have bought shares, expecting their value to rise. (This is what most stock investors do.)

"Shorting" shares is a strange but legal process, in which investors sell shares they don't currently own, but have agreed to buy later. Those who are "short" are betting that the price of shares will drop, and that they will profit that way.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

The Motley Fool

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Fool's School

Do-It-Yourself Pensionlike Income

We'd all love a pension: You work for a company for many years, and in retirement, it still pays you an income. Sadly, though, fewer and fewer employers offer pensions. Social Security offers a similarly dependable income stream, but it's not likely to be enough. So consider buying an immediate fixed-rate annuity. (Favor these over variable or indexed annuities, which we reviewed last week.)

With an immediate fixed-rate annuity, you fork over a hefty sum to an insurance company in exchange for regular payments — for a set period, or for the rest of your life. By paying more money — or accepting less — you can include features such as inflation adjustments, or payments for the duration of your spouse's life too.

In the recent interest rate environment, a 65-year-old man might get monthly $489 payments for the rest of his life for $100,000, while a 70-year-old woman might get $531. A 70-year-old couple might get $927 for $200,000. If you buy your annuities when interest rates are higher, you'll be offered more income.

Read up on annuities a lot more before buying one, but here are some tips: For starters, be sure to buy from companies with very high credit ratings, because the annuity payments are guaranteed only as long as the company is in business. Also, if you're not sure when to buy, consider splitting up your purchase. If you wanted to spend $300,000 on annuities, perhaps spend $100,000 now, and the rest later, when interest rates might be higher. You might also divide your purchase between several insurers.

One downside is that if you die unexpectedly early, you might not get as many payments as you expected, and your purchase price won't be refunded. You could prevent that by buying an annuity that guarantees a certain number of payments — even to your heirs.

Setting up annuity income for yourself can relieve you of a lot of money management responsibilities later in life and can reduce your worries. Learn more about annuities by visiting **Investor.gov** and typing "annuities" into the search box.

My Dumbest Investment

A Bad Fee-ling

My dumbest investing blunder in the stock market was not understanding the fees and returns on my first investment. I paid a $6.95 trading commission to buy two shares for $15 each. So for a $30 investment, I paid roughly $7 — nearly a quarter of the value of the shares. It was only later that I realized that I'd have to earn a roughly 30% return just to break even. I still hold those two shares as a reminder. — *B.S., online*

The Fool Responds: That's a great lesson to learn, and many investors never really do. It's becoming less of an issue these days, as a host of major brokerages have recently reduced their commissions to $0 per trade, but some people might still be paying a commission.

If you are paying, it's best to aim to have that commission represent no more than 2% of the overall value of your trade. So if you're being charged $7 per trade, try to place trades valued at least at $350. (This was even more important when brokerages were charging $25 or even $150 or more per trade.)

It's also critical to be aware of fees in the rest of your financial life, because if you don't avoid the ones you can and minimize the others, you'll surrender a lot of money. Study those bank statements, for example, and see what you're being charged.

The Motley Fool Take

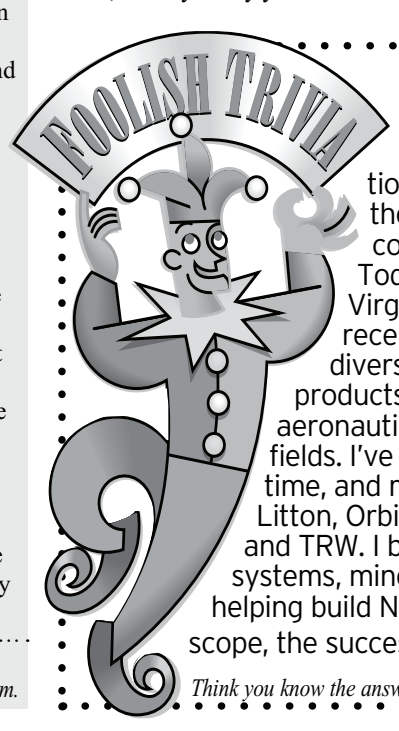
Disney for the Long Run

It's easy to understand why investors would be wary of Walt Disney (NYSE: DIS) right now. The company shut down Disney World and Disneyland due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and with millions staying home now, sales will be depressed this year.

But Disney is a good bet to rebound eventually, as it's consistently posted profits over the years, and they've increased as well. From a profit of $7.5 billion in fiscal 2014, Disney's profit rose 47% to $11.1 billion in 2019. Over five years, that's an average annual growth rate of 8% — impressive for a company with a market value recently near $190 billion. It also has produced positive free cash flow in each of the past 10 years, which will help it absorb a financial hit this year.

When the coronavirus crisis is over, movie theaters and Disney properties worldwide will be open for business again, but the company has more going on than just those businesses. It owns ABC and the majority of Hulu, for example, and recently launched its Disney+ streaming business, which quickly collected more than 50 million subscribers.

Disney's stock was recently 31% below its 52-week high, and now could be a good time to buy, if you're willing to wait for the global economy to recover. The stock offers a dividend, too, that recently yielded almost 1.7%. (The Motley Fool has recommended and owns shares of Disney.)



Name That Company

I trace my roots back to the 1929 founding of an aviation engineering company and the 1939 founding of an aircraft company, which merged in 1994. Today, based in Falls Church, Virginia, and with a market value recently near $55 billion, I'm a diversified giant, offering systems, products and services to the space, aeronautics, defense and cyberspace fields. I've acquired many companies over time, and my businesses include Logicon, Litton, Orbital ATK, Scaled Composites and TRW. I build stealth bombers, radar systems, mine detectors and more, and I'm helping build NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, the successor to Hubble. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to the 1802 creation of a gunpowder mill on the Brandywine River in Delaware by a French immigrant and family friend of Thomas Jefferson. In 1903, I set up my Experimental Station, one of the world's first industrial research and development facilities; here, products such as nylon, Lycra, Kevlar and Tyvek were conceived, along with neoprene – the first synthetic rubber. Today, my market value is over $30 billion, and my brands include Corian and Styrofoam. I completed a merger with Dow Chemical in 2017 and then spun it off in 2019. Who am I? (Answer: DuPont)

Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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Start thinking bankruptcy now, not later

Liz Weston

If you've lost your job or struggle to pay your debt, you may need to file for bankruptcy. If that's the case, you should ignore some common financial advice and start thinking defensively.

The coronavirus pandemic that upended the economy is also expected to send unprecedented numbers of people and businesses to bankruptcy court. Millions are out of work, and economic disruptions could continue until a vaccine is widely available, something that may be more than a year away.

"I am gearing up for having a tsunami of new cases," says Jenny Doling, a bankruptcy attorney in Palm Desert, California, who serves on the American Bankruptcy Institute's Chapter 13 Advisory Committee. "I think there will be a whole lot more people filing than what anyone's ever seen before."

If bankruptcy may be in your future, here's what you need to know now.

Don't wait to talk to a bankruptcy attorney

People are usually advised to solve their debt problems on their own, if they can, or to consult a credit counselor, with bankruptcy as a last resort. But the people who come out of bankruptcy in the best shape tend to be the ones who got expert advice early, Doling says. You can get referrals from the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, and the first meeting is typically free.

"If you even think that there's a possibility that you're going to be in debt trouble, or you're not able to pay something, go get a free consultation before you make any kind of financial move," Doling says.

That doesn't mean you should rush to file, however, says John Rao, staff attorney for the National Consumer Law Center. Your situation could improve, or things could get much worse. Since Chapter 7 liquidation bankruptcies can only be filed every eight years, you'd want to file when you can erase the maximum amount of debt.

Don't touch your retirement money

This is one piece of advice that predates the pandemic: It's never been a good idea to raid your retirement funds. It's a particularly bad idea if bankruptcy might be in your future.

The new coronavirus hardship withdrawals allow people to take up to $100,000 from their 401(k)s or individual retirement accounts without penalty or mandatory withholding. The withdrawals are taxable, but people who can pay the money back within three years can amend their tax returns to get those taxes refunded.

But few people in financial crisis now will be able to pay the money back, Doling predicts. More important, money in retirement funds is typically protected from creditors and so should not be used to pay debt that could be erased in bankruptcy, such as credit cards and medical bills.

Don't let cash pile up

A cash buffer is important, but money in bank accounts can be seized to pay creditors. Your attorney will advise you about where to put extra cash. One option may be a Roth IRA. Any amount you contribute can be withdrawn tax-free at any time, and in the meantime it's protected from creditors.

Don't sell stuff

People are often advised to sell unneeded possessions to pay down what they owe. If bankruptcy's in your future, though, check with an attorney first since the sale may be unnecessary or may be needed more later.

"After the bankruptcy, if you needed it to pay your rent, you could sell it," Doling says.

Also, don't give away assets, because a bankruptcy trustee – the person administering your bankruptcy case – could sue the recipient to get them back, says Kate Nicholson, a bankruptcy attorney in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Don't pass up forbearance options

Because of the crisis, many lenders are allowing borrowers to skip some payments. The usual advice is to take advantage of such forbearance only if you really need to, since the debt will still have to be repaid.

But credit card debt and most other unsecured debt would be erased in a Chapter 7 bankruptcy, which is the type most consumers file. Secured debt, such as mortgages and car loans, usually isn't erased, but forbearance could help you save money for other necessities, including food, utilities – and paying your bankruptcy attorney. (A Chapter 7 filing typically costs about $1,500, with Chapter 13 filings running $3,000 and up.)

"(Forbearance) is a great wait-and-see approach so that you're not (paying) out-of-pocket right now," Doling says. "You can see what's going to happen with your job, with your spouse's job, your situation."

Liz Weston is a columnist at NerdWallet, a certified financial planner and author of "Your Credit Score." Email: lweston@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lizweston.

hp OUTDOORS

Submitting hunting or fishing photos

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

Photo provided / Lynn Basselman

A male rose-breasted grosbeak is seen April 28 in Royalton Township.

Spring brings in long-distance migrants

Jonathan Wuepper
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

The Baltimore oriole and rose-breasted grosbeak are two of the most anticipated long distant migrants to return to Southwest Michigan.

Both of these songbirds arrived back in the region after April 20 but were not commonly seen until the last two days of April.

Hans Schroeder of St. Joseph photographed a male Baltimore oriole on April 29 as it took in much needed calories from an orange, placed out at his bird feeding station.

Photo provided / Hans Schroeder

A male Baltimore oriole feeds on an orange placed on a feeder in St. Joseph.

The Baltimore oriole wintering grounds range from the tropical forests of Mexico south through northern South America.

By the time orioles arrive back on their nesting grounds they are in dire need of energy. An easy way to help out orioles is to slice an orange and skew it to a small branch. There are many ideas for making oriole feeders on the internet.

By mid-April, the first migrants begin to arrive back in Michigan, and immediately begin the nesting process.

The Baltimore oriole constructs a hanging nest from a tree branch made out of plant fibers and lines with grass and animal hair. Elm, oak and birch are the favored nesting trees of the oriole in Michigan.

The male oriole brings some nest material to the site; the female weaves it together.

By late June or July adults and juvenile orioles will have vacated the nesting area.

Fall migration begins in mid-August and September. Most orioles depart Southwest Michigan by mid-September.

On April 28, Lynn Basselman of Royalton Township photographed a male rose-breasted grosbeak at her home feeder.

Like the Baltimore oriole, the grosbeak is a long-distance migrant, with the first individuals arriving back in Southwest Michigan by April 24, becoming common about a week later.

While the rose-breasted grosbeak is found throughout Michigan during the summer months it is most abundant in the southern portion of the state. Nesting starts in May, and young usually leave the nest by July.

Both the Baltimore oriole and rose-breasted grosbeak visit feeding stations upon returning to Michigan in the spring. As the season progresses both species depend less on feeding stations and rely more on insects for food.

Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wuepperj@gmail.com.

Nature and history combine at home for Michigan kids

By CASEY WARNER
Michigan Department of Natural Resources

When Michigan schools closed in March, ultimately for the remainder of this school year, and educational recreation venues shut down to help slow the spread of coronavirus, many parents and caregivers began asking themselves the same question:

"What do we do with the kids now?"

Seeing the need for more at-home learning resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources educators set out to help answer that question.

"The DNR recognized early that families and teachers were going to need engaging and relevant educational activities while obeying the governor's 'Stay Home, Stay Safe' orders," said Kevin Frailey, DNR education services manager.

Frailey and others in the DNR who work on education programs – interpreters at state park and fish hatchery visitor centers, staffers at the Michigan History Center in Lansing and the Outdoor Adventure Center in Detroit – while unable to provide their normal in-person learning opportunities, began creating videos to help teach people about a range of nature and history topics from a distance.

These videos are available on a recently launched webpage at Michigan.gov/NatureAtHome, along with a collection of other resources, including virtual field trips and online tours, scavenger hunts, games and other easy ways for families to explore and engage with nature and history. The webpage also has suggested reading materials and links to free nature apps, social media pages and websites where families can find more learning tools.

"We know you're overwhelmed trying to teach your kids from home," said Natalie Elkins, DNR preK-12 education specialist. "Start by watching the videos from DNR staff for a stress-free addition to your new 'learning from home' environment – they're educational, fun and Michigan-based."

Frailey said DNR staffers consulted resource agencies in other states and environmental education colleagues to collect materials for the webpage.

"We've heard that many organizations and agencies are linking to ours in lieu of creating their own site," he said. "We are proud to be providing leadership in these difficult times."

The website includes a series of videos DNR education staffers created to celebrate 50 years of Earth Day, which took place April 22 this year. Many fairs and events associated with the annual environmental observance, normally drawing hundreds or thousands of people, were canceled due to the COVID-19.

"The 50th anniversary of Earth Day was something we wanted to celebrate even though DNR education staff are quarantined. Their creativity was just what we needed to celebrate five decades of Earth Day with five days of educational and engaging videos all shot in their homes, yards and property," Frailey said. "With so much negative news coming out each day, we felt these put a smile on everyone's face."

Other DNR nature lesson videos featured on the webpage cover everything from birds, frogs and snakes to tying various types of fishing knots.

One video series on the site explores how to identify Michigan trees. Hartwick Pines State Park interpreter Craig Kasmer, who created the videos, calls it "Tree Detectives," a moniker he originally came up with for his tree ID programs at the park.

"My hope was to inspire the curiosity in kids. At the time, my nephews were just toddlers and watched Blue's Clues: 'Look for clues!' So I took that idea and used it in my interpretation," Kasmer said.

To learn more about the DNR's education programs, visit Michigan.gov/DNREducation.

DNR updates lake trout regulations

From THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Those fishing for lake trout on either northern Lake Huron or portions of Lake Michigan this season can up their take. At its April meeting, the Michigan Natural Resources Commission approved the following fishing regulation changes, with immediate effect:

- In the northern Lake Huron lake trout management unit MH-1, the daily possession limit is now three fish (up from a two-fish limit in 2019). This regulation now applies to all Lake Huron waters.
- In the Lake Michigan lake trout management unit MM-4, the daily possession limit is two fish (up from a one-fish limit last year).

Anglers had exceeded daily possession limits for both lake trout management units in recent years, prompting the decrease in 2019 to ensure compliance with the 2000 Consent Decree recreational harvest limits. The reduction worked, as the 2019 lake trout harvest stayed within specified limits. Managers are confident that restoring the daily possession limits to their former levels won't result in overfishing in either lake trout management unit.

This information is updated in the online 2020 Michigan Fishing Guide (available at Michigan.gov/DNRDigests).

For questions, contact Jay Wesley (Lake Michigan) at 616-490-5090 or Randy Claramunt (Lake Huron) at 231-622-3820.

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Young 5s	4		
Kindergarten	4	Discovery Academy	
1st Grade	3	(Alternative Education)	
2nd Grade	3	9th	1
3rd Grade	2	10th	5
4th Grade	3	11th	5
5th Grade	4	12th	4
6th Grade	1		
7th Grade	5	Virtual Academy	
8th Grade	1	Kindergarten	0
9th Grade	1	Grades 1-5	5 seats per grade level
10th Grade	1		
11th Grade	0	Grades 6-12	10 seats per grade level
12th Grade	0		

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The application process will begin May 6, 2020 and end June 12, 2020.

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Shawn Ashley: 269-845-2317

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- Unit 2: Upper 2 BR, 1 BA, 1,000 SF - Occupied
- Unit 3: Upper 1 BR, 1 BA, 700 SF - Occupied
- Owner on Main Level Unit and Rents the Two Units / Could return to Single Family Home

CressyEverett.com/20013400
Shawn Ashley 269-845-2317

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CressyEverett.com/20013601
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LEGALS

LEGALS

STATE OF MICHIGAN
PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF BERRIEN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Decedent's Estate

File No. 2019-0044-DE-R

Estate of
Frances Marie Hammer
Date of birth: 7/14/1935

TO ALL CREDITORS:*

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:
The decedent, Frances Marie Hammer, died 9/16/19. Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Dale Hammer, personal representative, or to both the probate court at 811 Port Street, St. Joseph, MI 49085, and the personal representative within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

Attorney:

LEGALS

Kurt M. Armstrong
511 Renaissance Drive, Suite 110
St. Joseph, MI 49085
269-983-5777

Personal Representative:
Dale Hammer
7516 Forest Beach Road
Watervliet, MI 49098
765-5113-4343

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5/10/20

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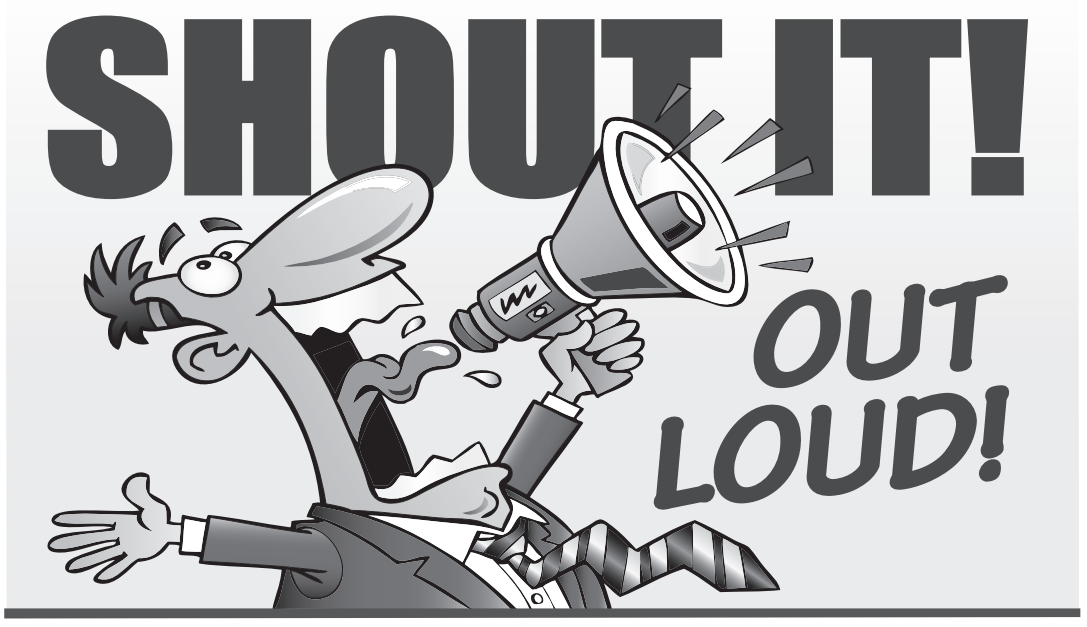

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BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP
NOTICE OF PROJECT PLAN PUBLIC HEARING

Benton Charter Township will hold public hearings on proposed Wastewater and Water System Improvement projects for the purpose of receiving comments from interested persons.

The hearings will be held on June 16, 2020, during the regular board meeting at 5:30 p.m. Board meetings are normally held at Benton Charter Township office located at 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor MI, 49022. Due to COVID-19 (coronavirus) the Township board meeting may be held via tele-conference. Updates regarding tele-conference and in person meetings can be found on the Township website at www.bentonchartertwp.org.

The purpose of the proposed projects is to improve the safety and reliability of the wastewater collection system and the water distribution system in the Township. Wastewater system improvements include:
1. Replacing approximately 15,000 feet of aging sanitary sewer
2. Consolidating three existing lift stations into one new lift station
Water system improvements include:
1. Increasing the treatment capacity at the Water Treatment Plant by installing an additional membrane filter
2. Looping existing transmission and distribution mains to improve reliability
3. Replacing approximately 7,000 feet of aging watermain
4. Conducting a investigation to identify undocumented water service line materials
5. Replacing existing water storage tanks
6. and construction of new water transmission mains.
Impacts of the proposed projects include typical sanitary sewer main and watermain construction, and temporary disruptions such as noise, dust, and traffic congestion caused by construction activities. The benefits will include more reliable and energy efficient wastewater collection and water distribution systems as well as improved water quality, reduced maintenance cost, and new road pavement in the underground construction areas. The proposed projects will be spread out over three years, 2021 through 2023. The projected cost to water system users is estimated at $6.06 per month per residential equivalent unit. The projected cost to sewer system users is estimated at $6.88 per month per residential equivalent unit. The Township's existing water and sewer rate structure is expected to be adequate to finance these costs through the State Revolving Fund low interest loan program.
Copies of the plan detailing the proposed projects are available for inspection at Benton Charter Township office located at 1725 Territorial Road, Benton Harbor MI, 49022 or online at www.bentonchartertwp.org.
Written comments received before the hearing record is closed on June 16, 2020
will receive responses in the final project plan.
Written comments should be sent to:

Benton Township Clerk
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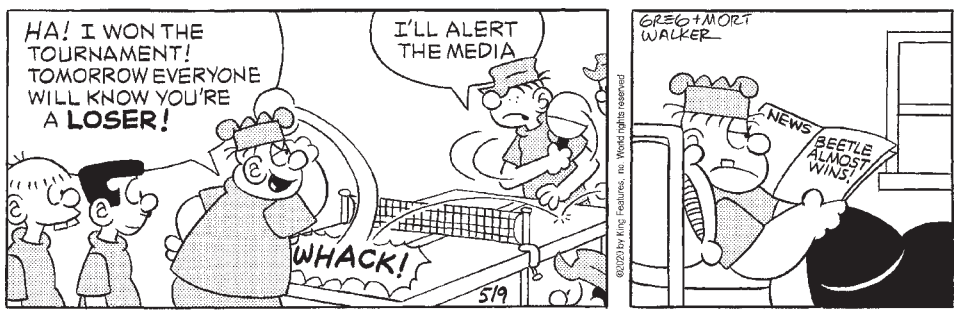
CITY OF BENTON HARBOR
RIVERVIEW DR. AND BRITAIN AVE. SIGNAL REMOVAL

Sealed Bids for the Riverview Dr. and Britain Ave. Signal Removal will be received at the City of Benton Harbor Clerk's Office, at 200 E. Wall Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 until Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 3:00 pm local time. At that time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. In the event that the State of Michigan, Governor Whitmer's Executive Orders # 2020-21 and 2020-48 are extended due to COVID-19, the bid opening will be conducted virtually. Instructions on how to participate will be posted on the City of Benton Harbor's website, www.bhcity.us. Sealed bids may also be delivered to the drop box in front of the City Hall, located at 200 E. Wall Street by the aforementioned deadline. The Project includes the removal of the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Riverview Dr. and Britain Ave. Bids will be received for a single prime Contract. Bids shall be on a unit price basis. Sealed bids bearing the Project name as well as the name and address of the bidder shall be submitted to Kimberly Thompson, City Clerk at 200 E. Wall Street, Benton Harbor MI 49022.
Information and Bidding Documents for the Project will be available on Monday, April 20, 2020 and can be found at the following designated website: http://www.abonmarche.com/bids. There is no fee for registration on the plan holder's list and download of electronic bidding documents. Hard copies are available from the Issuing Office of Abonmarche, 95 West Main Street, Benton Harbor, MI 49022 (269) 927-2295. The fee for obtaining hard copy documents is Twenty-five Dollars ($25.00). An additional Ten Dollars ($10.00) will be charged for plans requiring shipping. General Specifications, description and conditions upon which the bid proposal is to be based are on file for examination at the Issuing Office.
A certified check, cashier's check or bid bond in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, made payable to the City of Benton Harbor will be required with each bid as security for the proper execution of the contract. A 100% Labor, Material, and Performance Bond will be required of successful bidder.
This work is subject to the City of Benton Harbor local Minority Participation Requirements. The City of Benton Harbor requires a minimum of 25% of the total construction cost as Local Minority participation. This shall include costs related to subcontracted work and/or laborers employed by the contractor that will participate in the work. The successful bidder shall prove the 25% participation with their bid or their good faith efforts to hire local minorities.
No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days after the scheduled opening without consent of the OWNER. The Owner reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any informality in bidding or to accept the bid, consistent with law, which best serves the interest of the Owner.
All inquiries shall be directed to Abonmarche, attn.: Sandy Riehl at Phone (269) 927-2295, Fax: (269) 927-1017 or via email: sriehl@abonmarche.com. Technical questions must be submitted via email and shall be entitled "Riverview Dr. and Britain Ave. Signal Removal – RFI."
ENGINEER:
Daniel A. Dombos II, PE
Sr. Project Manager
Abonmarche
95 West Main Street
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

RESERVE THIS SPACE TODAY!

BEETLE BAILEY


HA! I WON THE TOURNAMENT! TOMORROW EVERYONE WILL KNOW YOU'RE A LOSER!
I'LL ALERT THE MEDIA
WHACK!
5/9
GREG + MORT WALKER
NEWS
BEETLE ALMOST WINS!
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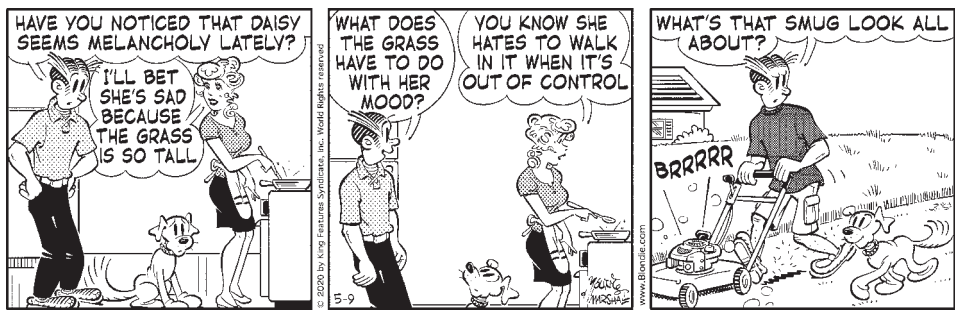
BLONDIE


HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT DAISY SEEMS MELANCHOLY LATELY?
I'LL BET SHE'S SAD BECAUSE THE GRASS IS SO TALL
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WHAT DOES THE GRASS HAVE TO DO WITH HER MOOD?
YOU KNOW SHE HATES TO WALK IN IT WHEN IT'S OUT OF CONTROL
5-9
WHAT'S THAT SMUG LOOK ALL ABOUT?
BRRRRR
www.Blondie.com

HI & LOIS

WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR MOTHER'S DAY, MOM?
JUST A LITTLE LOVE AND APPRECIATION.
HIandLois.com
ERIC REYNOLDS
SAVE SOME HUGS FOR TOMORROW!
5-9
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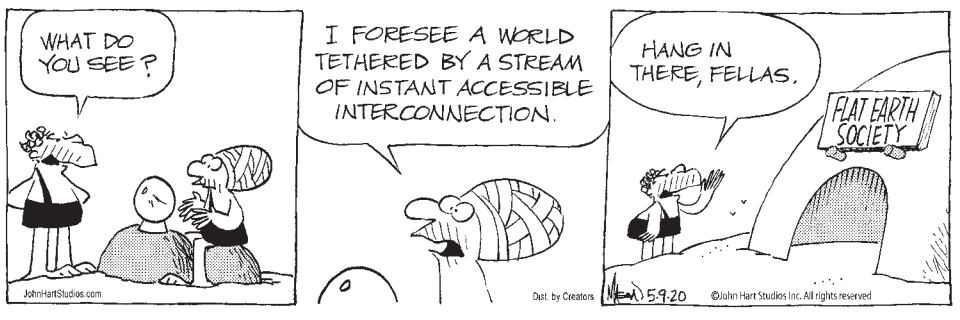
BC

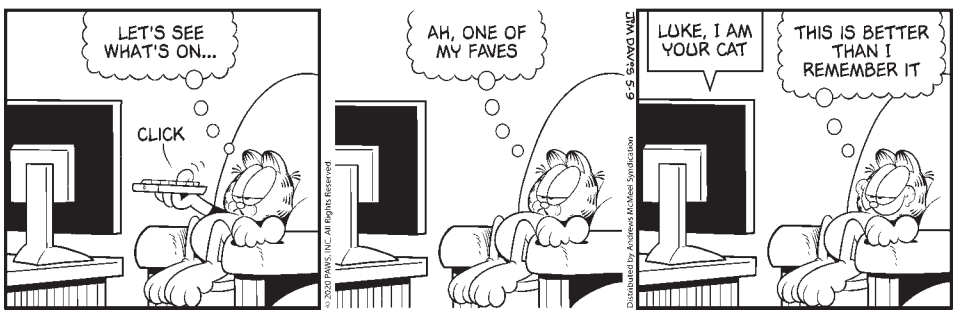

WHAT DO YOU SEE?
I FORESEE A WORLD TETHERED BY A STREAM OF INSTANT ACCESSIBLE INTERCONNECTION.
HANG IN THERE, FELLAS.
FLAT EARTH SOCIETY
JohnHartStudios.com
Dist. by Creators
5.9.20
©John Hart Studios Inc. All rights reserved

WIZARD OF ID

DILBERT

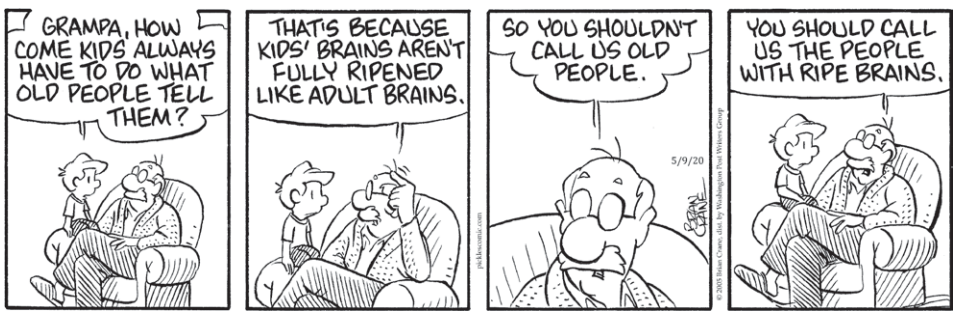
I HAVEN'T HAD ANY HUMAN CONTACT FOR MONTHS.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
PEOPLE NEED PHYSICAL CONTACT TO KEEP THEIR OXYTOCIN AT HEALTHY LEVELS.
GET AWAY FROM ME.
MAYBE IF WE BOTH CLOSE OUR EYES.
5-9-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD


LET'S SEE WHAT'S ON...
CLICK
© 2020 PAWS, INC. All Rights Reserved
AH, ONE OF MY FAVES
5-9
LUKE, I AM YOUR CAT
THIS IS BETTER THAN I REMEMBER IT
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

FORT KNOX

PICKLES


GRAMPA, HOW COME KIDS ALWAYS HAVE TO DO WHAT OLD PEOPLE TELL THEM?
THAT'S BECAUSE KIDS' BRAINS AREN'T FULLY RIPENED LIKE ADULT BRAINS.
SO YOU SHOULDN'T CALL US OLD PEOPLE.
5/9/20
YOU SHOULD CALL US THE PEOPLE WITH RIPE BRAINS.
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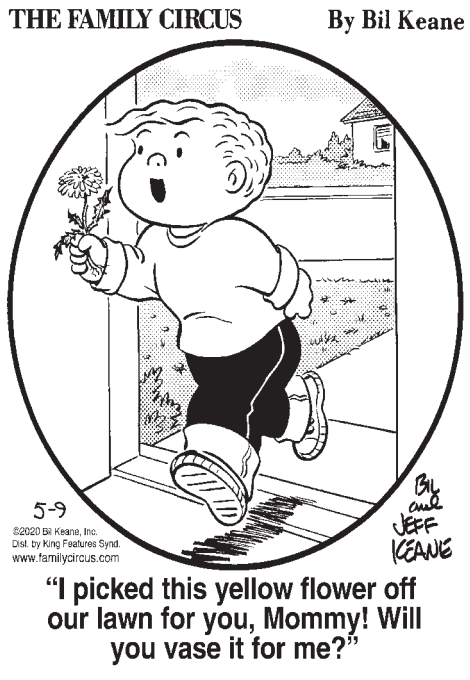
FAMILY CIRCUS


THE FAMILY CIRCUS
By Bil Keane
5-9
©2020 Bil Keane, Inc.
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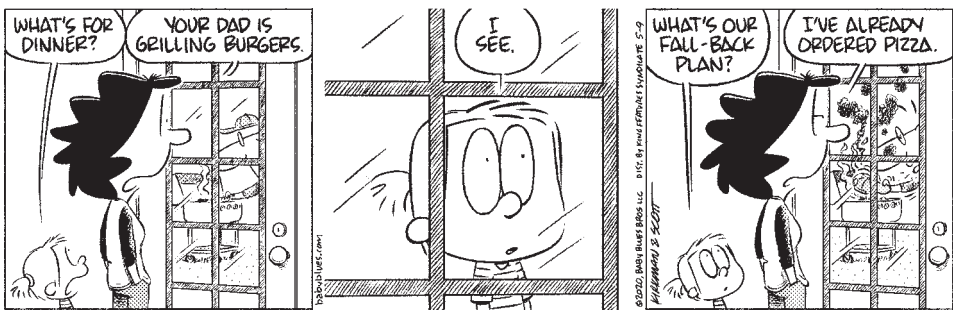
www.familycircus.com
BIL and JEFF KEANE
"I picked this yellow flower off our lawn for you, Mommy! Will you vase it for me?"

BABY BLUES



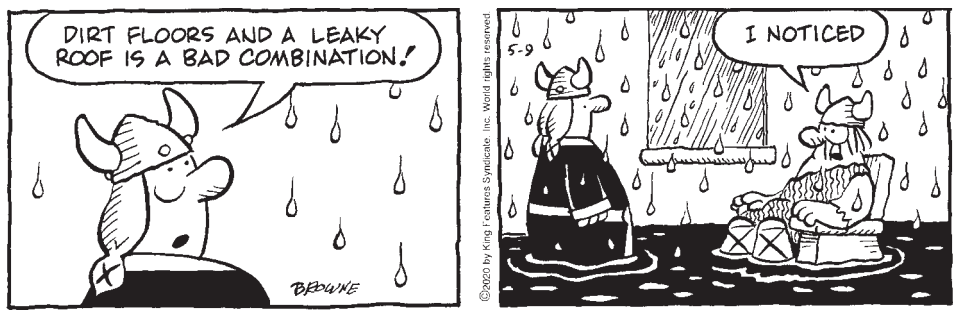
CURTIS

THE BOYS WATCH A LOT OF SILLY VIDEOS
IT KEEPS THEM BUSY AND DISTRACTED FROM WHAT'S GOING ON! IT'S FUN TO BE SILLY!
STOPPIT, CURTIS!
OUCH! MA, BARRY BIT ME!!
WELL, IT LASTED THIRTY SECONDS
TEDLINGSLEY
5-9

ZITS

SOMETHING WRONG, JEREMY?
SARA AND I ARE HAVING A DISAGREEMENT.
zitscomics.com
WELL, IF EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT ME ANYTHING, IT'S THIS:
...SHE'S PROBABLY RIGHT.
THAT'S YOUR IDEA OF PARENTAL SUPPORT?
5-9
SCOTT and JERRY BERGMAN

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE


DIRT FLOORS AND A LEAKY ROOF IS A BAD COMBINATION!
BROOKINS
5-9
I NOTICED
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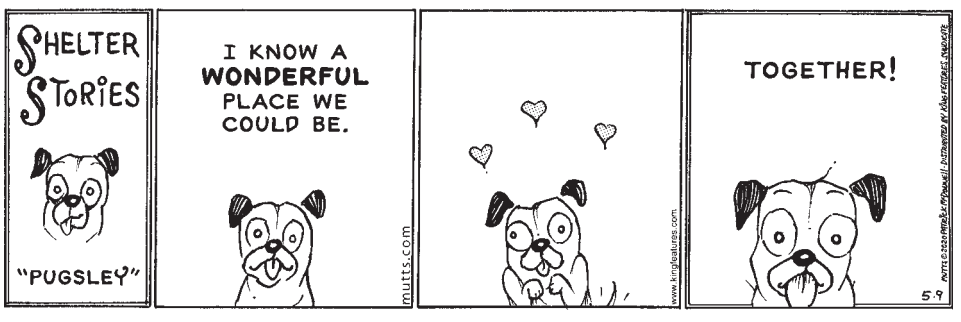
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

MUTTS



SALLY FORTH

OKAY, I'VE TALLIED UP THE POINTS FROM ALL OUR REALITY SHOW COMPETITIONS – ALL THE RACING AND EATING...
AND THE WINNER IS...
5-9
CERTAINLY NOT OUR HOUSE OR STOMACHS.
WELL, THE IMPORTANT THING IS...SOMETHING SOMETHING. EH, LET'S BINGE-WATCH INSTEAD.
KEEFE
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Ben Spencer
@HPBenSpencer

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, MAY 9

Embrace change. Focus on what you want to achieve, and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results you get. Move in a positive direction that will help alleviate problems and give you the freedom to live life your way. Don't hesitate.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Do your own thing. If you get involved in someone else's dream, you will lose track of your goal. Offer emotional support, but not your time or your money.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Emotions will surface when dealing with affairs of the heart. Honesty will be essential if you want to keep the peace. Don't listen to gossip or meddlers.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's OK to do things differently. A change will inspire you to be more creative in your pursuits. Invest more time and money in yourself and your community.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Get all the facts before you make a statement or move. Someone will offer misleading information that could derail your plans. Personal improvements, love and romance are favored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Gather information and make adjustments that will tighten up your plans, keep your cash flow moving and bring about positive change. The input you receive will be life-altering. Avoid emotional tension.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Get moving. Take control of your health, well-being and love life. Make changes geared toward looking and feeling your best. Get together with someone special and share your intentions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Don't ignore an opportunity. A new responsibility will show off your potential and help you develop something that will put your skills and services in demand. Diversify and you will excel.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Size up your situation. Consider what you want and how best to manipulate events to fit into your long-term plans. A close relationship will be important.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Consider what will bring you the most joy. Structure your time and plans to ensure that you reach your goal. A positive change at home will ease stress and add comfort.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Avoid making a move prematurely. Don't make a change based on what someone else does. Focus on what is best for you. Make physical improvement, good health and romance priorities.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Control your emotions. Don't agree to someone else's terms or make a promise that you don't want to honor. Be honest and focus on what you need and want.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You can get ahead if you are swift to take advantage of an opportunity. An offer, gift or bit of unexpected cash is apparent. Romance is favored.

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SUNDAY, MAY 10

Put time aside to prepare appropriately. Achieving your goals is doable, but it will require going through the proper channels and executing your plans with precision. Refuse to let others take advantage of you or put demands on you that will deter you from getting things done. Change begins with you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Offer suggestions, listen to expert advice and participate in events and activities that offer insight, opportunity and valuable connections. If you show greater confidence, it will lead to solid partnerships.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Be precise and refuse to play games. Inconsistency will lead to confusion. Offer only what you plan to deliver. A physical outlet will be rejuvenating. Romance is encouraged.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Address emotional issues and be willing to compromise. Getting along will be half the battle and will be much more comfortable than pursuing the alternative. A change will end up being beneficial.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Take on only what you can handle. If you do less and do things well, you will avoid scrutiny. A friendly game that provides mental, physical and emotional input is favored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A window of opportunity is apparent. Take on a project or challenge that excites you. It's essential to incorporate some fun into your routine in order to balance your life.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Distance yourself from demanding or indulgent people and responsibilities that don't belong to you. Put greater emphasis on the way you look, feel and live life. Make romance a priority.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Take advantage of whatever comes your way. Size up situations and jump into action. It's better to experience what life has to offer than to end up having regrets. Avoid arguing with a loved one.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You may desire change, but before you make a move, consider the consequences and discuss your plans with the people who will be affected by your decisions.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Make your surroundings more entertaining. Do the work yourself or invite friends over to help. The incentives you offer will encourage everyone to do a good job.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You'll make an impression if you pitch in and help a cause. Your input, compassion and understanding will lead to an exciting encounter and potential partnership. Romance is in the stars.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Calculate your strategy before you agree to take on a challenge. Think before you do something that may upset the people closest to you. Discuss your intentions openly and listen to suggestions.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Sit tight if that's what's required. Being too earnest will give someone else the upper hand. Pour your energy into something concrete that will add to your appeal. Financial gain is within reach.

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and Associates
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TRIM YOUR TREES BEFORE THE LEAVES!

CROSSWORD

Crossword Answers C2

Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"TRADE SCHOOL"
By PAUL COULTER

ACROSS

1 Noble, unselfish sort
8 Copy
14 Language of the Quran
20 Magnetite, e.g.
21 Port N of Pittsburgh
22 Examine in detail
23 This year's hatchlings?
25 Influential groups
26 Quelques-__: a few, in French
27 One in a shell
28 ER workers
30 "Bellefleur" author
31 Half a tuba sound
32 Scrips
33 Acapulco aunt
34 Mayo is found in it
35 Quarterback Manning
37 Chopin virtuoso's self-assurance?
45 Highland hillsides
47 Attorney general after Sessions
48 Tummy muscles
49 Coal carrier
50 Greek cross in a company logo?
54 Exist
55 Diva deliveries
56 Formally commend
57 Ancient assembly areas
58 Opinion surveys on text changes?
60 Extend People
62 Santa feature
64 Kids' song refrain
65 Some QB protectors
68 Alpine peasant dress
70 Sealed
73 Animal house
74 Skateboarding move
76 Peak
78 Lover of Silvio in "Pagliacci"
80 Time to honor an aircraft manufacturer?
83 Jeered
85 Buckwheat noodle
89 U.K. honors
90 Faller of 2001
91 Shark's interim appendage?
93 Bug
94 Knock
95 Q.E.D. word
96 Hoists
97 Ripening of a Mediterranean fruit?
103 UFO crew, in theory
104 "One Mic" rapper
105 Anaheim MLB team, in crawl lines
106 Meh
108 Film buff's channel
111 Typical hole-in-one, e.g.
113 Triage ctrs.
114 Piggies' protector
117 "... __ saw Elba"
118 White rat, e.g.
120 Pupil with a phonetic beginning that hints at what the circled letters comprise
123 Beach locales
124 Bread maker
125 Heartfelt
126 Most massive
127 Heavy hammer
128 High houses

DOWN

1 Generate
2 Place to play
3 Become discouraged
4 Queen's offspring
5 Monopolize
6 Mountain ridge
7 Strip of vegetation
8 Chipper
9 Seriously shrunken sea
10 Baptism, for one
11 Outdoor gear brand
12 Portugal's second-largest city
13 Astringent in red wine
14 "Tarzan" critter
15 Puts in more film
16 French satellite launcher
17 Grabbed for a chat
18 "Of course"
19 Prefix with pit
24 At one time, at one time
29 Apple browser
32 Japanese soup
36 Sufferer healed by Jesus
38 Super, slangily
39 Like some artifacts, thanks to radiocarbon
40 Clear
41 French vineyard
42 "As if"
43 Border __
44 Inventor of an early stock ticker
45 Discreetly send a dupe email to
46 "Vive le __!"
51 Eastern royal
52 New __
53 Limo service vehicle
54 Extend
55 "... or __ thought"
58 Coastal flier
59 Await judgment
61 Sistine Chapel mural setting
63 Quaint coin-op eatery
65 Surname in a 1983 Styx hit
66 Worldwide
67 Item of camping gear
69 Arid
71 Equal
72 Historic Icelandic work
75 "__ for Innocent": Grafton novel
77 Sex educator Hite
79 So far
81 2008 TARP beneficiary renamed Ally Financial
82 Simple radio antenna
84 Eye opener?
86 Like garage parking
87 Modicum
88 Reply to a ques.
91 Bus. card info
92 Stat start
94 Is indignant about
98 Carousel traveler
99 Funny brothers
100 Programming language named for a mathematician
101 Bone: Pref.
102 Sounds
107 Bristlelike parts
109 Perfume, as at High Mass
110 Hands, in slang
111 Apiece
112 Baseball brother
114 Boston or Chicago
115 Blood type, briefly
116 Shrek, for one
117 "Giant" author Ferber
119 East, in Essen
121 Charlemagne's domain: Abbr.
122 Coffee hour vessel

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SIEMANS IN BRIDGMAN

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2019 FORD MUSTANG ECOBOOST CONVERTIBLE DEMO

OXFORD WHITE, MIDNIGHT BLUE LEATHER, NAVIGATION, 19 INCH POLISHED ALUMINUM WHEELS, B & O PLAY PREMIUM AUDIO 12 SPEAKER SYSTEM FORD PASS CONNECT, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, 10 SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, AND MUCH MORE! F19000

MSRP	$43,140
SIEMANS DEMO DISCOUNT	- 4,895
FORD MUSTANG RETAIL CASH	- 2,000
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 1,500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CASH	- 750
FORD SPECIAL PACKAGE RETAIL CASH	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $32,995

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT

2019 FORD RANGER LARIAT CREW CAB 4X4

OXFORD WHITE, EBONY LEATHER SEATS, NAVIGATION, HARD FOLD TONNEAU COVER, FX4 OFF ROAD PACKAGE, 18 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, REMOTE START, HEATED FRONT SEATS, FORD PASS CONNECT, LANE KEEPING SYSTEM, BLIND SPOT MONITORING, REVERSE SENSING, FORWARD SENSING SYSTEM, B & O 10 SPEAKER SYSTEM, AND MUCH MORE! F19358

MSRP	$46,130
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,385
FORD RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 1,500
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 750
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750

SALE PRICE* $40,245

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2020 FORD TRANSIT CONNECT

FROZEN WHITE, CRUISE CONTROL, FORD PASS CONNECT, REAR VIEW CAMERA, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, REMOTE KEYLESS ENTRY, AND MUCH MORE! F20021

MSRP	$26,795
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,300
FORD SELECT INVENTORY CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 1,500
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 1,250

SALE PRICE* $21,995

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT

2019 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW XLT 4X4

RACE RED, MAGNETIC ACCENT, REMOTE START, HEATED SEATS, 2.7 ECOBOOST ENGINE, POWER SLIDING REAR WINDOW, NAVIGATION, LOCKING REAR AXLE, CHROME APPEARANCE PACKAGE, AND MUCH MORE! F19452

PLUS 10 YR/100,000 MILE FORD PROTECT POWERTRAIN CARE

MSRP	$49,685
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 3,940
FORD F-SERIES RETAIL CLUSTOMER CASH	- 3,250
FORD SPECIAL PACKAGE RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 750
FORD RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 250
FORD BONUS CASH	- 1,500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 2,000

SALE PRICE* $37,995

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD E350

OXFORD WHITE, LIMITED SLIP REAR AXLE, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, CRUISE CONTROL, BAYBRIDGE 16 FOOT VAN BODY, WITH 24 INCH REAR SWING DOORS, OPTIONAL POCKET SIDE DOOR, AND MUCH MORE! F19169

MSRP	$34,660
ADD FOR BAYBRIDGE BODY	+10,953
SUBTOTAL	$45,613
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 4,618
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 2,750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS*	- 1,750
FORD COMMERCIAL UPFIT BONUS CASH	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $35,495

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD F-250 CREW CAB 4X4 XLT

MAGNETIC, 6.7 DIESEL, TAILGATE STEP, FORD PASS CONNECT, SNOW PLOW PREP PACKAGE, TRAILER TOW MIRRORS, CHROME RUNNING BOARDS, FOG LAMPS, ADJUSTABLE PEDALS, 18 INCH WHEELS, HEATED FRONT SEATS, LOCKING REAR AXLE, POWER SEAT, AND MUCH MORE! F19013

MSRP	$61,060
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 5,065
FORD F-SERIES RETAIL CASH	- 500
FORD CREDIT RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 2,500
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CASH	- 750

SALE PRICE* $51,495

(*MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2019 FORD TRANSIT CARGO VAN

OXFORD WHITE, CLOTH SEATS, FIXED REAR DOOR GLASS, CRUISE CONTROL, POWER WINDOWS AND LOCKS, AND MUCH MORE! F19322

MSRP	$37,940
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,445
FORD SELECT INVENTORY RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 750
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 3,750
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT RETAIL CASH*	- 2,000
FORD COMPETITIVE CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 1,000

SALE PRICE* $27,995

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU FORD MOTOR CREDIT)

2020 FORD EXPLORER ST 4X4

AGATE BLACK METALLIC, TWIN PANEL MOON ROOF, 14 SPEAKERS, 10 INCH TOUCH SCREEN, MULTI-CONTOUR FRONT SEATS, 3.0 ECOBOOST ENGINE, HANDS FREE LIFT GATE, HEATED FIRST AND SECOND ROW SEATS, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, POWERFOLD THIRD SEAT, 360 DEGREE CAMERA, ACTIVE PARK ASSIST, REMOTE START, B & O SOUND SYSTEM, NAVIGATION, AND MUCH MORE! F20013

MSRP	$58,525
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 2,530
FORD RETAIL CUSTOMER CASH	- 500
FORD BUILT TO LEND A HAND FORD CREDIT BONUS CASH*	- 2,000

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42 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $3900 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *(MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL) OFFER EXPIRES 05/31/20

2020 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED 4X4

FIRECRACKER RED, 2.0 TURBO ENGINE, 8 SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION, BACK-UP CAMERA, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, POWER HEATED MIRRORS, INTEGRATED VOICE COMMAND WITH BLUETOOTH, AND MUCH MORE! C20028

MSRP	$37,990
LESS EMPLOYEE PRICING DISCOUNT	- 2,673
EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL	$35,317
CHRYSLER CAPITAL RETAIL BONUS CASH*	- 1,500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$33,817
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $33,317

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 JEEP CHEROKEE LATITUDE 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, SATELLITE RADIO, HEATED FRONT SEATS, REMOTE START, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, AND MUCH MORE! C20044

MSRP	$29,845
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 850
REBATE	- 1,750
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
BONUS CASH	- 500
JEEP SELECT INVENTORY CASH	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$25,495
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $24,995

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2019 CHRYSLER PACIFICA LIMITED

BILLET SILVER METALLIC, 20 SPEAKER HARMON KARDON SOUND GROUP, U-CONNECT THEATRE, 20 INCH ALUMINUM WHEELS, 360 SURROUND VIEW CAMERA SYSTEM, HANDS FREE SLIDING DOORS, NAVIGATION, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, TRI-PANE PANORAMIC SUNROOF, HEATED FIRST AND SECOND ROW SEATS, FORWARD COLLISON WARNING, LANE DEPARTURE WARNING, ADAPTIVE CRUISE CONTROL, AND MUCH MORE! C19300

MSRP	$50,570
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 8,575

AS LOW AS $41,995

2019 RAM 2500 CREW CAB 4X4

BUSINESS OWNERS GET MORE! ASK HOW!

MAXIMUM STEEL METALLIC, 6.4 V8 ENGINE, RAMBOX CARGO MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, CHROME APPEARANCE GROUP, ANTI-SPIN REAR AXLE, LED BOX LIGHTING, CHROME CLAD WHEELS, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, SNOW PLOW PREP PACKAGE, TRAILER BRAKE CONTROLLER, AND MUCH MORE! C19256

MSRP	$46,215
LESS EMPLOYEE PRICING DISCOUNT	- 4,640
EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL	$41,575
RAM BONUS COUPON	- 250
BONUS CASH	- 1,000
FCA CONQUEST BONUS CASH*	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$39,825
CONQUEST LEASE CASH*	- 500
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $38,825

(*MUST QUALIFY)

2020 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE ALTITUDE PACKAGE 4X4

DIAMOND BLACK CRYSTAL, POWER SUNROOF, 9 AMPLIFIED SPEAKERS WITH SUBWOOFER, PREMIUM LIGHTING GROUP, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, NAVIGATION, HEATED SEATS, POWER LIFTGATE, 20 INCH GLOSS BLACK ALUMINUM WHEELS, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, AND MUCH MORE! C20047

MSRP	$44,570
SIEMANS DISCOUNT	- 1,825
REBATE	- 2,000
CHRYSLER CAPITAL BONUS CASH*	- 750
RETAIL BONUS CASH	- 500
JEEP SELECT INVENTORY	- 500
SALE PRICE FOR EVERYONE	$38,995
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500
RETURNING LESSEE CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $37,995

(*MUST QUALIFY/MUST FINANCE THRU CHRYSLER CAPITAL)

2020 RAM 1500 CREW CAB 4X4 BIG HORN

GRANITE CRYSTAL, 5.7 HEMI V8 ENGINE, HEATED FRONT SEATS, ANTI-SPIN REAR AXLE, POWER SEAT, REMOTE START, BUCKET SEAT, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, 20 INCH ALUMINUM CHROME CLAD WHEELS, PARK SENSE FRONT/REAR PARK ASSIST, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, 2ND ROW IN FLOOR STORAGE BINS, AND MUCH MORE! C20038

LEASE FOR $339/MO*

36 MONTH LEASE WITH APPROVED CREDIT, 10,000 MILES PER YEAR, $3,600 DUE AT SIGNING, PLUS 1ST PAYMENT, TAX, TITLE, DOC FEE, PLATE FEE, SECURITY DEPOSIT WAIVED, *(MUST QUALIFY FOR CHRYSLER LEASE RENEWAL) OFFER EXPIRES 05/31/20

2020 JEEP GLADIATOR SPORT 4X4

BLACK, TRAILER TOW PACKAGE, TOUCH SCREEN RADIO, BLACK 3-PIECE HARDTOP, SPRAY-IN BEDLINER, UNIVERSAL GARAGE DOOR OPENER, HEATED STEERING WHEEL, HEATED FRONT SEATS, BLIND SPOT AND CROSS PATH DETECTION, AND MUCH MORE! C20010

MSRP	$46,155
LESS EMPLOYEE PRICING DISCOUNT	- 3,801
EMPLOYEE PRICING FOR ALL	$42,354
MILITARY CONSUMER CASH*	- 500

AS LOW AS $41,854

(*MUST QUALIFY)

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2015 CHEVY CORVETTE STINGRAY

6.2 V8 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Chrome Wheels, Only 15K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seats, Rear View Camera, Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Power Train Warranty! Blue M19114A

WAS $43,995 **NOW $41,495**

2017 BMW 430I XDRIVE GRAN COUPE AWD

2.0 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 20K Miles, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! White F20049A

WAS $31,996 **NOW $26,475**

2011 FORD F-350 XLT CREW CAB 4X4 WITH SNOW PLOW

6.7 V8 DIESEL EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 60K Miles, Remote Start, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Power Driver's Seat, Power Adjust Pedals, SYNC, CD-Player, The Boss Snow Plow, Car Smart Checked! Sterling Gray F19236A

WAS $35,750 **NOW $29,332**

2015 JAGUAR XF 3.0 SPORT AWD

3.0 EFI Engine, 8HP70 Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 46K Miles, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Silver C19339H

WAS $23,880 **NOW $20,704**

2019 MAZDA 3 SELECT

2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Skyactiv Automatic, Alloy Wheels, Only 3K Miles! Auto Climate Control, Blind Spot Monitoring, Rear Cross Traffic Alert, Lane Keep Assist, Lane Departure Warning, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Mazda Certified! Snowflake Whi S19025

WAS $20,995 **NOW $19,995**

2017 FORD FUSION SE

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 42K Miles, Remote Start, Power Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, SYNC 3, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Blue Lightening U19204

WAS $16,988 **NOW $14,733**

2015 FORD EXPEDITION LIMITED 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 108K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Heated 2nd Row Seats, Power Fold 3rd Row Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Blind Spot Monitoring , Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! F20082A

WAS $25,161 **NOW $21,291**

2017 FORD F-150 LARIAT SUPERCREW 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 45K Miles, Remote Start, SYNC 3, Chrome Step Bar, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Blind Spot Monitoring with Trailer Tow Monitoring, Trailer Back-Up Assist, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Ingot Silver C20089A

WAS $37,243 **NOW $34,657**

2017 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM 4X4

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Painted Aluminum Wheels, 34K Miles, Remote Start, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Auto Climate Control, SYNC 3, Blind Spot Monitoring, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Gold U19219

WAS $22,953 **NOW $20,712**

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 49K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Dual Panel Moon Roof, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Velvet Red F20123A

WAS $29,463 **NOW $27,899**

2018 FORD F-150 LARIAT SUPERCREW 4X4

3.5 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 10 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 46K Miles, Bed Liner, Chrome Step Bars, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, SYNC 3, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Blind Spot Information System with Trailer Tow Monitoring, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magma Red F20099A

WAS $38,670 **NOW $35,924**

2015 RAM 1500 SLT OUTDOORSMAN ECO DIESEL CREW CAB 4X4

3.0 V6 Turbo DIESEL EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Semi-Gloss Black Aluminum Wheels, 69K Miles, Bed Liner, Running Boards, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ram Certified! Bright Silver C19274A

NOW $25,790

2013 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 5 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 65K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Leather Heated Front Seats, 3-Piece Hard Top, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Black C20069A

WAS $26,902 **NOW $24,932**

2015 FORD F-150 XLT SUPERCREW 4X4

2.7 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 111K Miles, Remote Start, Chrome Step Bars, Power Front Seats, SYNC, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Ingot Silver F19507A

WAS $21,755 **NOW $19,996**

2017 MAZDA CX-5 GT AWD

2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 81K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Machine Gray M19186A

WAS $20,675 **NOW $19,995**

2017 HONDA CIVIC EX

1.5 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Remote Start, Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Gray C20042A

WAS $18,395 **NOW $17,513**

2016 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY TOURING

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 51K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Leather Seating, 3rd Row Stow 'N Go Seats, DVD Entertainment Center, Power Sliding Side Doors, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Chrysler Certified! Cashmere Sandstone U19236

WAS $18,572 **NOW $17,142**

2017 RAM 1500 SLT BIG HORN CREW CAB

5.7 V8 HEMI EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 29K Miles, Remote Start, Spray-In Bedliner, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Touchscreen Display, Park Assist System, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry, Ram Certified! Bright Silver U19242

WAS $29,201 **NOW $27,827**

2017 FORD ESCAPE SE 4X4

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 35K Miles, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic U19237

WAS $19,591 **NOW $17,842**

2018 HYUNDAI SANTA FE SPORT AWD

2.0 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, Only 11K Miles, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Red C20111A

WAS $29,653 **NOW $26,232**

2013 INFINITI JX35 AWD

3.5 EFI Engine, CVT Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 132K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Moonlight White F19511A

WAS $13,998 **NOW $11,886**

2016 HONDA HR-V EXL AWD

1.8 EFI Engine, CVT Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 85K Miles, Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Blue M20017A

NOW $14,995

2017 FORD F-150 STX SUPERCREW 4X4

5.0 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 31K Miles, Bed Liner, Running Boards, SYNC 3, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Pro Trailer Back-Up Assist, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Magnetic U20001

WAS $31,764 **NOW $31,201**

2016 FORD F-150 LARIAT SUPERCREW 4X4

3.6 V6 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Chrome-Like PVD Wheels, 31K Miles, Running Boards, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seating, Memory Power Adjust Pedals, Power Twin Panel Moon Roof, Blind Spot Monitoring, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Trailer Tow Package, Pro Trailer Back-Up Assist, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Gold U20000

WAS $37,909 **NOW $36,299**

2016 GMC YUKON SLE 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 82K Miles, Running Boards, Remote Start, Power Front Seats, Power Adjust Pedals, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear Park Assist, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Granite C19262A

WAS $28,947 **NOW $28,260**

2017 FORD ESCAPE TITANIUM 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Silver Painted Aluminum Wheels, 24K Miles, Remote Start, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Power Panoramic Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Blind Spot Monitoring, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Ruby Red U20010

WAS $21,687 **NOW $20,993**

2017 FORD EDGE TITANIUM AWD

2.0 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 43K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Panoramic Moon Roof, Blind Spot Monitoring, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! White Gold U20014

WAS $25,835 **NOW $25,186**

2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 40K Wheels, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Leather Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Power Twin Panel Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, Forward and Reverse Sensing System, Blind Spot Monitoring, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Trailer Tow Package, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Shadow Black U20015

WAS $28,999 **NOW $27,403**

2017 LINCOLN MKZ RESERVE AWD

2.0 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 46K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Memory Power Leather Heated/AC Front Seats, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Auto Climate Control, Panoramic Moon Roof, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Jade Green U20019

WAS $22,692 **NOW $21,595**

2018 FORD ESCAPE SEL 4X4

1.5 Ecoboost EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 19K Miles, Navigation, Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Driver's Seat, CD-Player, SYNC 3, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Ford Certified! Blue Metallic U20018

WAS $22,411 **NOW $20,516**

2016 MAZDA CX-5 GT AWD

2.5 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 38K Miles, Navigation, Leather Heated Front Seats, Power Driver's Seat, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Mazda Certified! White S20003

WAS $21,995 **NOW $21,500**

2017 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4

3.5 V6 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 43K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, SYNC 3, Power Leather Heated Seating, Heated Steering Wheel, Auto Climate Control, Blind Spot Monitoring, Forward and Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Hands Free Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Trailer Tow Package, Ford Certified! Shadow Black U20025

WAS $27,996 **NOW $26,632**

2018 CHEVY TRAX LS AWD

1.4 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 18K Miles, Rear View Camera, Remote Keyless Entry System, Balance of Factory Warranty! Silver C19329C

WAS $15,994 **NOW $15,494**

2015 JEEP WRANGLER UNLIMITED SAHARA 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 5 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 69K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Leather Heated Seating, 6.5 Touchscreen Display, Trailer Tow Group, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Copper C19150A

WAS $27,997 **NOW $26,568**

2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Satin Silver Aluminum Wheels, 38K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seating, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Power Moon Roof, Rear Park Assist, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Trailer Tow Group IV, Jeep Certified! Velvet Red U20030

WAS $28,979 **NOW $26,889**

2014 FORD F-150 STX SUPERCAB 4X4

5.0 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 93K Miles, Bed Liner, Running Boards, SYNC, CD-Player, Reverse Sensing System, Rear View Camera, Black Vinyl Floor Covering, Remote Keyless Entry System, Sunset Metallic U20032

WAS $18,876 **NOW $17,930**

2018 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LAREDO ALTITUDE 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 34K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Power Driver's Seat, Suede Heated Front Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Bright White U20034

WAS $29,853 **NOW $27,812**

2015 CHEVY 1500 SILVERADO LT CREW CAB 4X4

5.3 V8 EFI Engine, 6 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 61K Miles, Remote Start, Power Driver's Seat, Heated Front Seats, Auto Climate Control, Remote Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Gray U20033

WAS $26,981 **NOW $26,511**

2017 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LIMITED 4X4

3.6 V6 EFI Engine, 8 Speed Automatic, Aluminum Wheels, 41K Miles, Remote Start, Navigation, Memory Power Leather Heated Seats, Heated Steering Wheel, 2nd Row Heated Seats, Blind Spot and Cross Path Detection, Rear Park Assist with Stop, Rear View Camera, Power Lift Gate, Remote Keyless Entry System, Jeep Certified! Diamond Black U20036

WAS $27,913 **NOW $26,870**

2016 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT SE

1.8 EFI Engine, Automatic Transmission, Aluminum Wheels, 84K Miles, Power Leather Heated Seating, Power Moon Roof, Auto Climate Control, CD-Player, Rear View Camera, Keyless Entry System, Car Smart Checked! Black C20102A

NOW $11,862

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That's where we're at

Andy Steinke

I've been working from home for almost two months. That's a long time.

A man can do a lot of thinking in two months, especially when his new office chair is a La-Z-Boy. The change of scenery and the endless days of isolation have sparked some interesting thoughts.

Some are deep. Some are comical. Some are depressing. It's been a strange two months, to say the least.

I won't confess to keeping a journal, but Twitter offers a partial log of quarantine-induced musings over the past two months.

It started in mid-March. Events were being canceled or postponed. Colleges started closing. Then all schools. Then businesses. Then the whole state.

As I gathered the things I'd need from my desk to work from home, I stumbled across a Ziploc bag of things Niles Scream Park sent me last fall. Along with their news release, they sent a surgical mask and a pair of rubber gloves.

I saved them, thinking innocently, "You never know when you might need them." Little did I know how valuable they'd be in 2020.

Day One of #WFH didn't go as planned. The system, understandably, couldn't handle the sheer amount of people who suddenly needed to work remotely.

Thankfully, things got better. By Day Two, I was able to work my whole shift from the comfort of home.

Since then, it's been a roller-coaster of emotions.

Some days of working from home have been good, delicious even. You don't get too many fresh-baked cookies in the office.

Other days have left me longing for the 9-5 days under florescent lights with all my usual co-workers – not the ones who need help with math and reaching snacks in the cupboard.

On the one hand, it's been a nice change of pace to watch the birds return to Michigan and see my trees bloom in real time for the first time. (Man, they're slow.)

On the other hand, I've also had a front-row seat to more than one I-thought-winter-was-over-already snowstorms. Sometimes, there are benefits to a lack of windows in the newsroom.

Speaking of the outdoors, a few weeks ago, I wondered aloud, "What if the coronavirus is just the first plague?"

Now we have murder hornets, and I'm afraid to think aloud anymore.

I have gone many days without leaving the house, and many more where "leaving the house" has meant walking to the mailbox in my slippers and sweatpants. If I'd known what was coming in 2020, I would've bought stock in both.

Having more time to just sit around hasn't been all bad (unless you ask my bathroom scale). I've learned how to Zoom (I never thought I'd say those words). I've finally checked "write a regular column" off my to-do list. I've even written a letter. A real one. With a pen and paper.

It's becoming clear that we'll all look back on these times with mixed emotions.

On the one hand, showers before work have become optional. On the other, it'll be nice to get back to normal. Whatever that looks like.

Andy Steinke is features editor at The Herald-Palladium. Email him at asteinke@TheHP.com or follow him on Twitter @DecodingDadhood.

Photo provided / Shelly Solomon / AP

From left, Steve Turner and his sisters, Carla Paull and Lisa Fishman, hold up a Mother's Day banner on May 3 emblazoned with images of their mom, Beverly Turner, in front of her assisted living facility in Ladue, Mo. They were "practicing" how their Mother's Day surprise will look on the holiday as their mother peers down from a window.

Mother's Day this year means getting creative from afar

By LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

Photo provided / Yakub Shabazz / AP

Melissa Mueller-Douglas sits with her 7-year-old daughter, Nurah, at their home in Rochester, N.Y., with some of the items they plan to use for a Mother's Day sleepover.

NEW YORK — Treats made and delivered by neighbors. Fresh garden plantings dug from a safe 6 feet away. Trips around the world set up room-to-room at home.

Mother's Day this year is a mix of love and extra imagination as families do without their usual brunches and huggy meet-ups.

As the pandemic persists in keeping families indoors or a safe social distance apart, online searches have increased for creative ways to still make moms feel special.

Absent help from schools and babysitters, uninitiated dads are on homemade craft duty with the kids. Other loved ones are navigating around no-visitor rules at hospitals and senior-living facilities.

Some medical facilities are pitching in by collecting voice and video recordings from locked-out relatives when patients are unable to manage the technology on their own.

In suburban St. Louis, Steve Turner and his family hope to FaceTime with his 96-year-old mother, Beverly, but they plan something more, too. Her birthday coincides with Mother's Day this year.

"We're going to create a big Mother's Day-birthday banner signed by the kids and grandkids who live here," Turner said. "She loves butterflies and we'll draw some on. We're working with the home to find a place where we can stand outside a window so she can see us."

Anna Francese Gass in New Canaan, Conn., is hunkered down with her husband and three children and will enjoy her usual Mother's Day breakfast in bed of rubbery eggs, slightly burnt toast and *very* milky coffee. But the day won't include her own mom, who lives nearby.

"I ordered a bunch of daffodil and tulip bulbs online, and me and the kids are planning to plant them in her flowerbed. She can supervise from the window. I just know it will put a huge smile on her face," Francese Gass said.

In Alameda, Calif., 23-year-old Zaria Zinn is sheltering at home with her parents and younger sister. Knowing how much their mother loves and misses traveling, they're turning their house and neighborhood into a trip around the world with help from decorations and virtual tours online.

"We made a DIY passport for her and we're creating stamps for each location," she said.

Their itinerary: Machu Picchu, Paris and Iceland, with some DIY spa time and a Hollywood-style movie night.

Making the most of Mother's Day in isolation is top of mind for Google search users. The company said the term "Mother's Day gifts during quarantine" recently spiked by 600 percent in the U.S.

Among Pinterest's 335 million users, searches for "Mother's Day at home" have jumped by 2,971 percent, the company said.

In Rochester, N.Y., Melissa Mueller-Douglas and her 7-year-old daughter, Nurah, had planned to get together with mom and daughter friends at a hotel for a Mother's Day sleepover. When it was canceled because of the pandemic, they got busy on Pinterest searching for ideas to bring the party home, just the two of them.

They have eye masks with rhinestones to decorate, thread for mother-daughter bracelets, instant film for a photo shoot and a chocolate fountain purchased at Walmart. Dad and Nurah's 3-year-old brother will paint together downstairs after a mom-son bike ride earlier in the day.

"We've repurposed a shimmery tablecloth and made giant flowers out of tissue paper for a photo shoot backdrop. We'll be creating a secret handshake and writing in top secret journals to each other," Mueller-Douglas said. "We're calling it The Best Day Ever Slumber Party."

Kayla Hockman, 26, in Los Angeles has been worried about her 77-year-old grandmother in Fontana, Calif., about 50 miles

See **MOTHER'S DAY**, page D2

Be proactive, plan ahead for emergency situations

Sara Duris
Generations

Q My parents live on the West Coast and, although they are healthy and have done their estate planning, I'm worried now with the current travel bans and social distancing restrictions that if something happens, we wouldn't be able to get to them and we haven't planned well enough for this type of emergency. Do you have any recommendations?

A You aren't alone in this thinking as the pandemic has many of us with time on our hands to imagine worst-case scenarios.

But it is good to plan ahead and try to be proactive by having things in place to address many different situations.

We try to plan for possibilities, such as events happening when people travel or live in another state from a loved one, but who could imagine we wouldn't be allowed to accompany someone to the hospital or nursing home? Yet, this is the case now, and our plans must accommodate this new reality.

Our family recently encountered the need to have power of attorney documents faxed to a hospital on the other side of the state due to an emergency surgery for a relative being transported from assisted living. This presented quite a challenge for us and begged the question why copies of these important papers weren't where they needed to be, when they were needed.

This column has previously covered the need for family emergency plans, having an emergency kit with supplies available (www.ready.gov) and keeping medical and do not resuscitate information readily available for emergency responders.

Along these same lines, having a health information binder that is easy to find and take, or send with an individual, is something we should all consider.

Recommended contents would include emergency contact and medical power of attorney information, a current list of medications, insurance information, and copies of any advance directives. This info could also be kept up-to-date on a flash drive that could be kept with the person.

Another option is storing info online with a health information website/app such as MyKinergy or CareZone, or setting up care coordination for your loved one, which multiple family members/caregivers can access, through sites such as CaringBridge and Everplans.

These are just a few that popped up on a recent online search, and

See **GENERATIONS**, page D2

CHURCH NOTES

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, 9193 Cleveland Ave., Baroda, has canceled all face-to-face activities until Michigan's stay-at-home order has been lifted. Worship services can be found online at www.stjohnsbaroda.com.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2673 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville, has canceled all upcoming face-to-face services and activities. The church will continue to hold online services on its Facebook and YouTube pages. For more info, visit www.stpaulswels.org.

All activities at **The Old Rugged Cross Church**, 61041 Vermont St., Pokagon, are canceled until further notice. There will be no hymn sings, concerts, dedication or tours until the state's stay-at-home order is lifted and it is once again safe for groups to gather.

Zion St. Joe United Church of Christ, 3001 Veronica Drive, St. Joseph, continues to hold 10 a.m. Sunday services on its Facebook page: ZionChurch StJoe. The Rev. Adam Bohland will continue his "The Power of Words" series this week with "In the Beginning Was the Word."

Church Notes is a free listing, published Saturdays as a public service. Announcements are due by noon Wednesday. Pictures can be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Send items to: Church Notes, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email to focus@TheHP.com. Items should include a daytime phone number.

PET OF THE WEEK

Flora is a pretty, girly-girl who is about 2 or 3 years old. Tolerant of flowery headbands, she's also sporty: loves to play ball, and is great at catching treats. Flora is easy to leash and take out, but does pull when walking (she's willing to work on it in exchange for a home). OK with older kids, she needs to be the only pet. She is house-trained, spayed and current on vaccines. For more information, contact Val at Berrien County Animal Control at 927-5648 or vbohland@berriencounty.org.

ANNIVERSARIES

Ruppel
65 years

Peter and Beverly Ruppel of St. Joseph celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on April 21.

Peter Ruppel and the former Beverly Henke were married April 21, 1955, at Berrien Center Bible Church.

Their children are Steve of North Dakota, Deborah of Minneapolis and Dave of St. Joseph.

Peter is a U.S. Air Force veteran who served during the Korean War. He is retired from Benton Harbor Area Schools.

Beverly retired from Fifth Third Bank.

They are members of Napier Parkview Baptist Church in Benton Harbor.

Peters
70 years

Donald and Rheta Peters of St. Joseph celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on April 9.

Due to the coronavirus-related stay-at-home order, the family wasn't able to get together to celebrate, but that didn't stop friends and family from driving by and waving at them on their front porch.

Donald Peters and the former Rheta Gard were married April 9, 1950.

Their children are Blair (Sandy) Peters of St. Joseph, Dean (Susan) Peters of St. Joseph, Les (Judy) Peters of Surprise, Ariz., and Darcy (Ron) Baskin of Benton Harbor.

They have five grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Donald is retired from owning and operating BA Peters and Sons truck leasing with his brother in Benton Harbor. Don started golfing at Pipestone Creek Golf Course in 1957, the year it opened, and has played every year for 60-plus years. He continues to be active in the Benton Harbor Exchange Club and the Newsie sale.

Rheta is retired as the staff organist and office manager at Kelley and Starks Funeral Home.

Don and Rheta are active members at First United Methodist Church in St. Joseph.

SUBMIT YOUR COUPLES ANNOUNCEMENTS:
WWW.THEHP.COM/SITE/FORMS

GENERATIONS

From page D1

I am sure there are others. The key is to take steps now before they are needed.

The Area Agency on Aging can provide some general planning tools, such as Five Wishes and Planning For Your Peace of Mind. Call our Info Line for Aging and Disability at 800-654-2810 to request a copy.

Other good organizations for long-distance caregiving resources include Eldercare Locator at 800-677-1116 or eldercare.acl.gov; National Alliance of Caregivers at 202-918-1013 or www.caregiving.org/resources; and AARP at 877-333-5885 or www.aarp.org/caregiving.

Medicare classes coming soon

Turning 65 and new to Medicare this year? It can be daunting to consider Medicare options, especially with all those letters and the terminology.

What is the difference between original Medicare and Advantage Plans? When is the best time to enroll, and when can you make changes to your coverage?

One good thing is that you have seven months to make these choices – three months before you turn 65, your birth month, and the three months after you turn 65.

The other good thing is that Region IV Area Agency on Aging and MMAP (Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program) will be offering free "New-to-Medicare" classes in the coming months. (These might be virtual classes if the stay-at-home order is still in place.)

For more information, contact our MMAP regional coordinator at 408-4354.

Sara Duris is community information liaison of Region IV Area Agency on Aging in Southwest Michigan. Questions on age or independence services? Call the Info-Line for Aging & Disability at 800-654-2810 or visit www.areaagencyonaging.org. The Generations column appears each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium.

MOTHER'S DAY

From page D1

away. Usually, she and her sister treat her and their mom to brunch or an adventure out.

"My grandma's been quite depressed lately since she hasn't left her house in two months, and she's slowly losing hope," Hockman said. "She and my grandpa have a lot of problems with walking now. This whole thing of not being able to see anyone has been really taking a hard toll on them."

To cheer her up, they're planning a party on her lawn.

"It's going to be a surprise pop-up Mother's Day brunch with 'momosas' and painting," Hockman said. "We're going to set it up for all of us to paint a sunflower, her absolute favorite. She'll paint on her porch and we'll be on the lawn, all 6 feet apart."

Willie Greer in Memphis thought food, enlisting the help of a neighbor to make his mom's recipe for pecan pie and deliver it to her in Dallas to brighten her isolation Mother's Day. He said the neighbor was happy to do it after he sent her the recipe.

"My siblings and I will also create a 'thank you' video for mom. Since we can't all be together, each of us will record a short message and at the end we'll all sing 'A Mother's Love' by Gena Hill," he said. "I'm pretty sure this is the part where my mom cries her eyes out."

These days, virtual experiences are all we have, so Lisa Hill in Portland, Ore., decided to embrace that notion for her 79-year-old mom in Stuart, Fla., after she met a cooking instructor while volunteering to prepare meals at a shelter.

Hill has been cooking alongside Lauren Chandler, who has taken her usual in-home cooking sessions online with a twist: She's throwing in a free 45-minute session for clients to donate.

"I feel so far away from her. I can't cook for her. I can't visit," Hill said. "She's nervous about everything going on right now and it will be a good social interaction."

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Photo provided / ww.ePlans.com

Mixed siding jazzes up the exterior of this home, while elongated windows add a modern touch. See more images online at www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week.

Lovely bungalow design

Here's a lovely bungalow design that gives you stunning curb appeal and a layout full of smart details. The great room flows effortlessly into the open kitchen, where an island gives you room to hang out.

The master suite features a private bathroom that offers dual sinks, a soaking tub, modern shower and a large walk-in closet. Two additional bedrooms reside to the left of the floor plan and share a full bathroom.

To build this home, order a complete set of construction documents by calling 866-228-0193 or visit www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week. Enter the design number to locate the plan and view more images and details.

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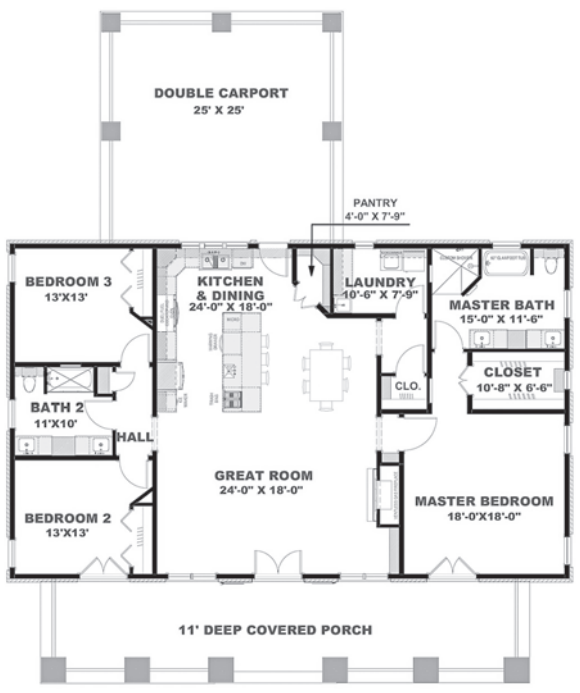

Design number: 44-238
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 2
Square footage: 2,160 square feet
Dimensions: 60-feet by 72-feet
Framing: 2-by-6

Hats Off to the Graduates!

We want to celebrate the 2020 Senior Class and honor them in a big way!
Upload a photo of your graduating Senior to our Salute to Seniors photo gallery with an announcement or your well wishes!
We are so proud of our area graduates and we want to celebrate you!

You can upload photos and browse our gallery through June 12.

Go to www.thehp.com and click the Salute to Seniors link.
Upload your photo and well wishes!

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Creating a new normal that's beautiful and harmonious

Linda Gunter
Insights

Pema Chodron once said, "Nothing ever goes away until it teaches us what we need to know."

I think there is great wisdom in that quote.

What do we have to learn during this time of safe-sheltering? What do we have to learn through all the things we are doing to ensure we don't give the virus to anyone else? What do we have to learn during this time of interacting with our loved ones differently, and yearning for a hug? What do we have to learn when we notice words and actions come from a place of fear or anger? What do we have to learn from the divisiveness, criticism and hatred we see?

Some have found that asking these questions has lead to more contemplation, prayer, meditation, reading and whatever other practices help us become more aware and give us a sense of a stronger, more meaningful connection to the God of our understanding.

Some are experiencing greater depression, anxiety, grief and despondency, and as a result are feeling disconnected from others and their source of strength. We are all experiencing this time in our own unique ways.

It is common right now to want to "get back to normal." What does that mean?

Author Laura Kelly Fanucci shared her thoughts:

"When this is over, may we never again take for granted:

A handshake with a stranger; full shelves at the store;

Conversations with neighbors; a crowded theater; Friday night out;

The taste of communion; a routine checkup; a school rush each morning;

Coffee with a friend; the stadium roaring; each deep breath;

A boring Tuesday; life itself.

When this ends, may we find that we have become more like the people we wanted to be,

We were called to be, we hoped to be.

And may we stay that way – better for each other

Because of the worst."

Imagine for a moment that when we get on the other side of this pandemic, each of us has a renewed commitment to be the best version of ourselves.

Imagine we so deeply care for others that we can better remember we are all one.

Imagine that loving extravagantly becomes our goal instead of other goals that may have kept us from doing that.

Imagine that instead of operating from fear and anger, we embrace trust, hope, peace and love more.

Imagine that rather than being frustrated with the restrictions imposed on us, we experience the gifts in this quieter, less busy time to reflect, renew and innovate.

Imagine never wanting things to go back to the old normal, but instead each of us are committed to creating a new normal.

It has been tempting to feel helpless about our current situation, and yet a part of us – perhaps so deep inside that we haven't brought it out in a while – knows that we are never helpless. We have all the guidance and resources we need.

We always have choices about how we react to things that come our way. What if COVID-19 is not happening *to* us, but rather is happening *for* us?

What I'm sensing is this is a big opportunity for us to look at ourselves, others and our purpose in life in a new way. It's our opportunity to co-create a new normal.

Maya Angelou said, "We are all at once both a composition and a composer. We have the ability not only to compose the future of our own lives, but to help compose the future of everyone around us, and the communities in which we live."

If we work together, we can compose a new normal that is harmonious, beautiful and a blessing to everyone. We can compose a new normal that does not see color, ethnicity, sexual preference, religion, or physical or mental disabilities with judgment, but rather embraces diversity as one of our greatest gifts.

We can compose a new normal where each of us individually and collectively seeks to be the best we can be. If we compose together, we can take the world we imagine and make it a reality.

Gary Zukav has said this pandemic is a miracle because we are learning to be creative and innovative in connecting with others. We are reaching out by singing from our balconies and driveways or online audio/visual platforms.

We are working intentionally to create connectedness with others and connectedness within our own being to our Divine Source. We are writing songs, poems, sharing stories and learning to be quiet and reflective.

We are saying "thank you" and "happy birthday" and "we love you" through honking horns, clapping, creative posters and "window" visits. We are in the midst of composing a new normal, and it really is miraculous.

I invite you to decide what your vision of a new normal looks and feels like, and then be part of creating it. We can create something exquisite together.

Today's Insights was written by the Rev. Linda Gunter, an ordained interfaith minister. She retired as the CEO of Peace Village, and is the former CEO of Hospice at Home in Southwest Michigan. She has been a guest minister at churches throughout Southwest Michigan. Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

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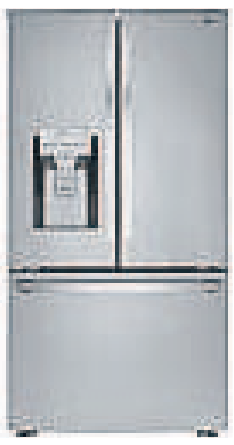

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MHSAA adjusts seeding to allow 1st-round byes in basketball, soccer

By HP STAFF

Adjustments to provide byes for top-seeded teams in basketball and soccer were among the most notable actions taken by the Representative Council of the Michigan High School Athletic Association during its annual spring meeting on May 4.

The council considered 32 committee proposals and dealt with a variety of eligibility rule, postseason tournament and operational issues. As with the council's winter meeting in March, the spring meeting was conducted remotely to keep with social distancing required by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Council adopted a change to seeding to take affect for hockey, basketball and soccer to provide any existing byes to the No. 1, and then No. 2 seed, in that order, if multiple byes are part of a bracket. The draw process then will continue to place the remaining teams on the bracket based on a randomly-selected order determined earlier in the season.

Hockey will implement seeding for the first time this coming school year.

Similar rules changes in football and basketball approved by the council and recommended by the MHSAA committees for those respective sports aim to create more opportunities, especially for programs struggling to field teams at multiple levels.

In football, while an athlete may still play only four quarters in one day, that athlete may play in up to five quarters per week. In basketball, an athlete may compete in up to five quarters per day, during no more than three dates per week and 20 dates per team or individual. Both changes will allow athletes to contribute to both varsity and subvarsity teams simultaneously, potentially bolstering numbers and opportunities to retain those squads.

The council also took action on a number of MHSAA Handbook regulations requiring adjustment because of the COVID-19 pandemic and disruption it has caused to Michigan high school athletics. Notably, the council voted to waive the 2020-21 pre-participation physical exam requirement for athletes who received one during the 2019-20 school year, although they are still required to fill out and sign the MHSAA Annual Sports Health Questionnaire.

The Council also authorized schools to make decisions on multiple summer matters, including an opportunity for athletic directors to request a waiver from the MHSAA to wear school competition uniforms during events that are school-sponsored and designed to recognize graduating 12th-graders. Additionally, the Council voted to give schools the opportunity to waive the annually-required week-long period of no summer activity, if they choose to do so.

Here is a summary of other notable actions taken:

Regulations

■ The Council approved a change allowing teams in sports governed by MHSAA summer competition limits – basketball, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer and girls volleyball – to participate against all opponents present at out-of-state summer events. MHSAA member schools must continue to abide by the MHSAA travel limit – traveling only to events that are hosted either in bordering states/provinces (Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Ontario and Wisconsin) or within 300 miles one way. MHSAA member schools now may participate at those events against out-of-state teams that exceed the travel limit by traveling more than 300 miles to the event site.

Sport Matters

■ In baseball, the council approved a Baseball Committee recommendation to adopt a suspended-game policy stating that any game called before it reaches regulation, or when the score is tied, is suspended with play to pick up at a later time from that point. However, if both schools agree, a game called prior to regulation may be replayed in its entirety.

■ Also in baseball, during its winter meeting, the council approved a Baseball Committee recommendation renaming the super regional level of the MHSAA Tournament as the quarterfinal level – with trophies and medals to be presented to both regional champions after the day's regional finals are completed and before the day's quarterfinal matching up those two teams.

The council also adopted at the winter meeting a tournament schedule that during even-numbered years will see Semifinals for Divisions 2 and 4 played on Thursday and Divisions 1 and 3 on Friday. The semifinal schedule will flip during odd-numbered years.

■ The council approved a series of Competitive Cheer Committee recommendations. High school athletes now are allowed to transition to stunts or loads from the flatback position. Also at the high school level, bases will be allowed to rotate or move while a flyer is in the inverted position (in a static inversion), and to provide for the allowance of additional flairs at the point of static inversion.

■ In football, the council approved a Football Committee recommendation extending the running clock when a team leads its opponent by 50 points to both the first and second halves of a game; the 50-point running clock stops only for player injuries and previously was employed only during the second half.

The 35-point running clock employed during the second half, with stoppages also for penalty enforcement, scoring plays and called timeouts, will remain in effect if the differential dips below 50 and until it reaches 50 points again.

■ Also in football, the Council approved a Committee recommendation allowing schools 15 summer dates of non-mandatory contact with an unlimited number of players (wearing helmets only). Schools may use these dates as they see fit, but of these 15 only seven dates may be used for 7-on-7 competition against other teams. This also eliminates the previous allowance for a camp.

■ A pair of changes were adopted for swimming and diving, one affecting each group of athletes. The council approved a Swimming & Diving Committee recommendation allowing swimmers to wear caps reading "State Team" during both regular-season and postseason competition.

For diving, the council approved a committee recommendation to designate the number of qualifiers from each Lower Peninsula regional to be in proportion to the number of entries at those respective regionals in each division.

This will allow regionals with larger numbers of participants to contribute more finals qualifiers, while eliminating the possibility that a regional could send all entrants to the finals regardless of performance because only 12 participate at that site.

Each division will continue to advance 36 divers total to the MHSAA finals.

■ In tennis, the Council approved a Tennis Committee recommendation to play the MHSAA final two-day tournament on Friday and Saturday unless there is a conflict with the host facility. In that case, that specific Final would be scheduled for Thursday and Friday.

■ During its Winter meeting, the council approved a Classification Committee recommendation that adds girls and boys tennis to the group of sports that schools may play as cooperative programs – with Executive Committee approval – if their combined enrollments do not exceed 3,500 students.

The council will reexamine this allowance after its first two years.

Junior High/Middle Schools

■ The council approved a Junior High/Middle School Committee recommendation to conduct MHSAA-sponsored cross country regional meets for junior high/middle school athletes at eight sites across the state, based on "zones" currently designated by the MHSAA. These regional meets will begin with the 2021-22 school year.

AP source: MLB to cut draft from 40 rounds to just 5

By RONALD BLUM
AP Baseball Writer

NEW YORK — Major League Baseball will cuts its amateur draft from 40 rounds to five this year, a move that figures to save teams about $30 million.

Clubs gained the ability to reduce the draft as part of their March 26 agreement with the players' association and MLB plans to finalize a decision next week to go with the minimum, a person familiar with the decision told The Associated Press. The person spoke Friday on condition of anonymity because no decision was announced.

There will be just 160 players drafted, and the combined value of their signing bonus pools is $235,906,800. The amount of signing bonus pool money eliminated is $29,578,100.

As part of the agreement with the union, players passed over in the draft are limited to signing bonuses of $20,000 or less. That might cause more high school players elect to go to college. And because of the NCAA's limit of 11.7 baseball scholarships, the change may cause more prospects to attend junior college.

All but six of last year's six-round picks signed for $200,000 or more. Chicago Cubs catcher/first baseman Ethan Hearn had the highest bonus of the round at $950,000, deciding to sign rather than attend Mississippi State.

San Francisco signed right-hander John McDonald, selected 326th on the 11th round, for $797,500, and Arizona gave left-hander Avery Short, picked 362nd on the 12th round, $922,500.

Among 1,082 players who were in a big league game last year after coming through the draft, 180 were first-round picks and 589 were selected during the first five rounds, according to the commissioner's office.

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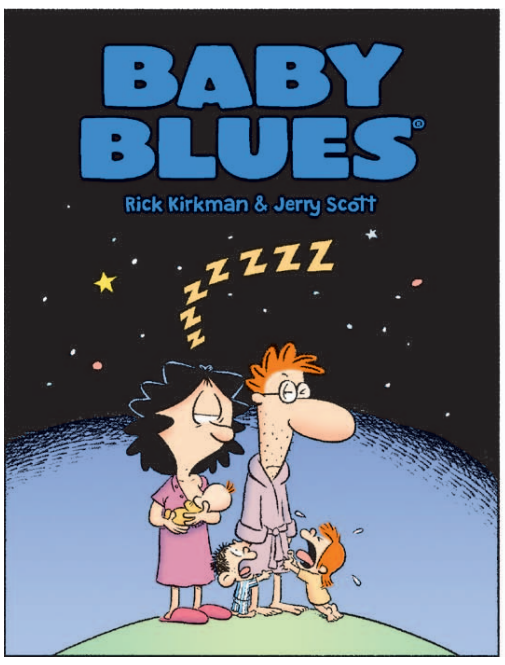
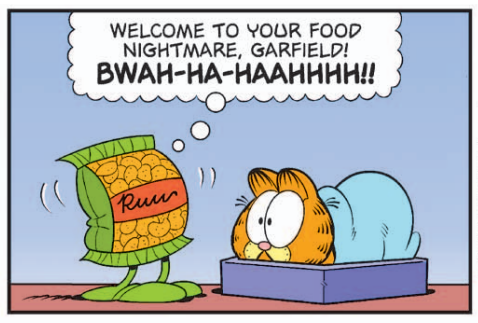


MOM

Garfield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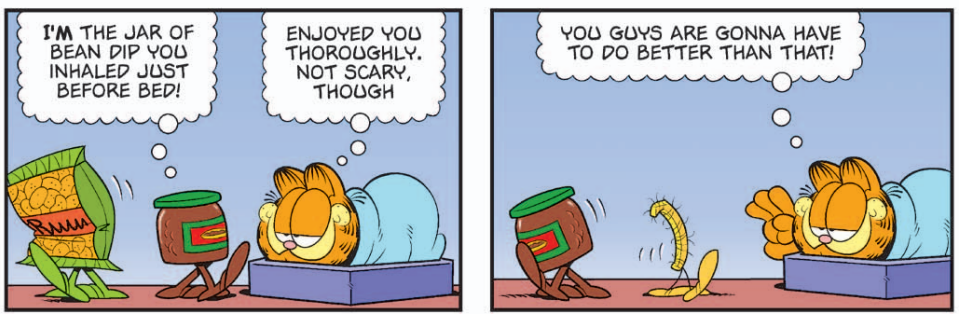
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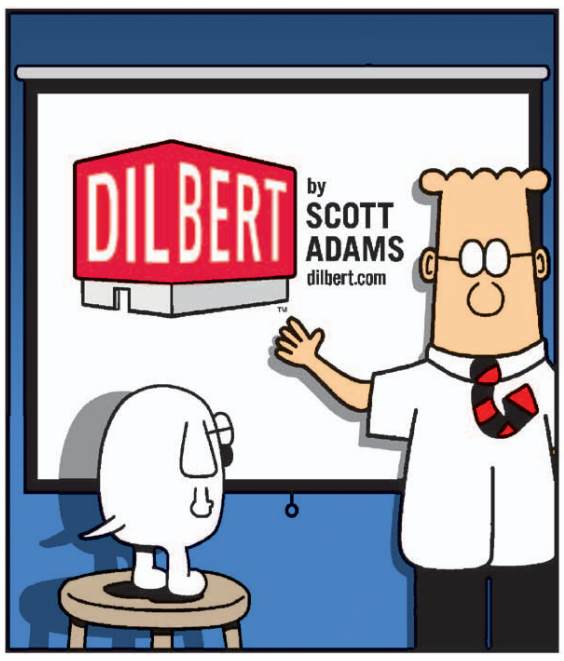
I'M THE FRENCH FRY YOU FOUND UNDER THE CAR SEAT AND ATE
OKAY, YOU I'M NOT PROUD OF
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
JIM DAVIS 5-10

DILBERT

by SCOTT ADAMS

dilbert.com



DOGBERT, I NEED YOU TO TRAIN ASOK TO FILL IN FOR YOU ON TECH SUPPORT.
THE GOAL OF TECH SUPPORT IS TO CONVINCE THE CALLER THE PROBLEM IS ON THEIR END.
I DO THIS BY RECOMMENDING INCREASINGLY DIFFICULT THINGS FOR THEM TO TRY.
EVENTUALLY, THEY GIVE UP.
WATCH AND LEARN.
UH-HUH... UH-HUH... TRY REBOOTING YOUR COMPUTER.
NOW TRY IT AGAIN WHILE HOLDING CONTROL-ESCAPE-SPACE BAR-DELETE FOR EXACTLY 27.3 SECONDS.
NO LUCK? TRY LOOKING AT YOUR COMPUTER'S BINARY CODE TO FIND ANY ZEROS AND ONES THAT ARE OUT OF ORDER.
AAAND HE'S GONE.
GENIUS!
CLICK
Twitter: @scottadamssays
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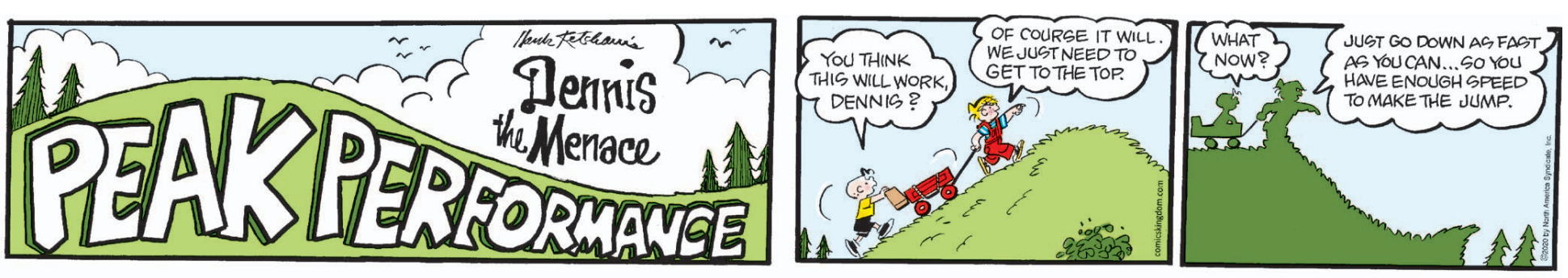
Dilbert.com 5-10-20

Dennis the Menace: PEAK PERFORMANCE


Hank Ketcham's
Dennis the Menace
PEAK PERFORMANCE
YOU THINK THIS WILL WORK, DENNIS?
OF COURSE IT WILL. WE JUST NEED TO GET TO THE TOP.
WHAT NOW?
JUST GO DOWN AS FAST AS YOU CAN...SO YOU HAVE ENOUGH SPEED TO MAKE THE JUMP.
comicskingdom.com
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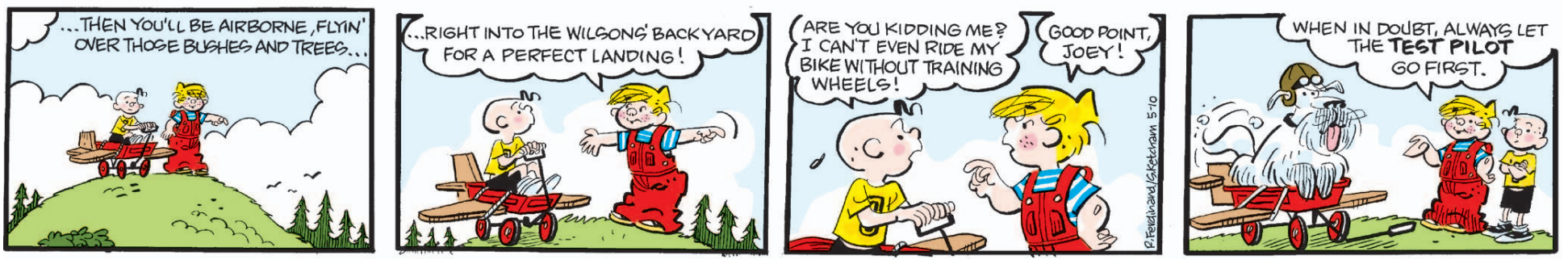
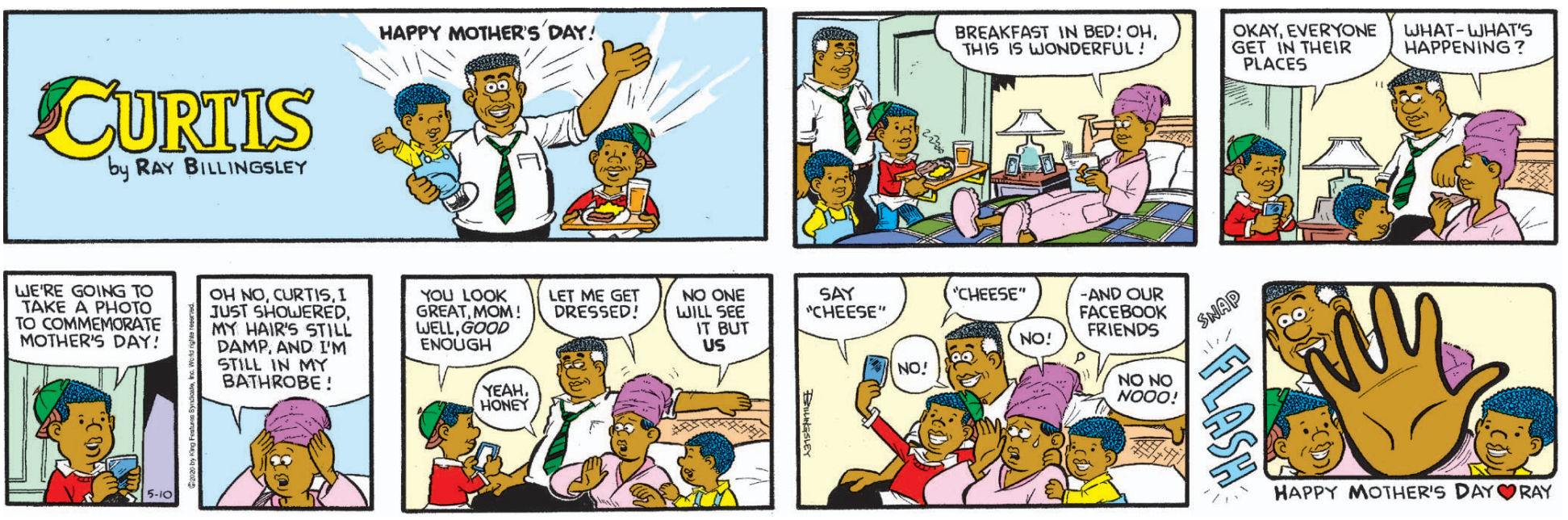

...THEN YOU'LL BE AIRBORNE, FLYIN' OVER THOSE BUSHES AND TREES...
...RIGHT INTO THE WILSONS' BACKYARD FOR A PERFECT LANDING!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? I CAN'T EVEN RIDE MY BIKE WITHOUT TRAINING WHEELS!
GOOD POINT, JOEY!
WHEN IN DOUBT, ALWAYS LET THE TEST PILOT GO FIRST.
R. Fieldwand Sketcham 5-10

CURTIS

by RAY BILLINGSLEY


HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!
BREAKFAST IN BED! OH, THIS IS WONDERFUL!
OKAY, EVERYONE GET IN THEIR PLACES
WHAT-WHAT'S HAPPENING?
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A PHOTO TO COMMEMORATE MOTHER'S DAY!
OH NO, CURTIS, I JUST SHOWERED, MY HAIR'S STILL DAMP, AND I'M STILL IN MY BATHROBE!
YOU LOOK GREAT, MOM! WELL, GOOD ENOUGH
LET ME GET DRESSED!
NO ONE WILL SEE IT BUT US
YEAH, HONEY
SAY "CHEESE"
"CHEESE"
NO!
NO!
-AND OUR FACEBOOK FRIENDS
NO NO NOOO!
SNAP
FLASH
HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY ♥ RAY
5-10
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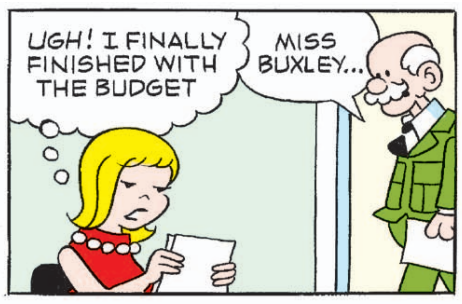
Mort Walker's beetle bailey®



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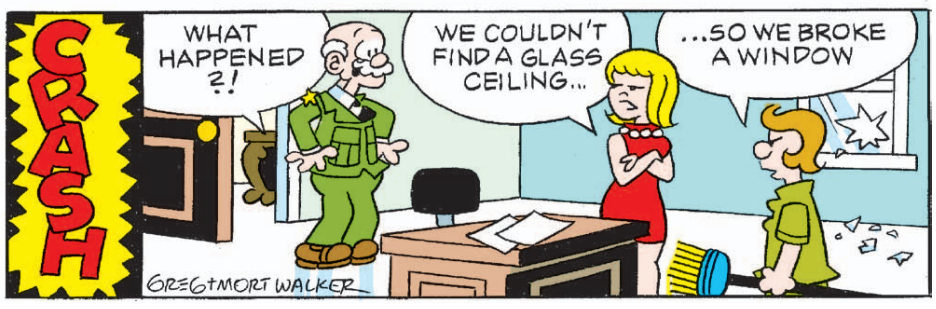
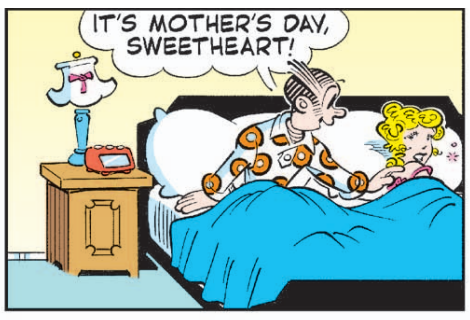
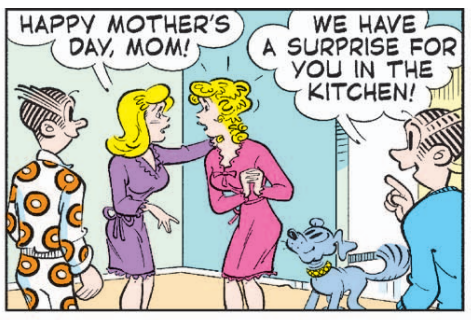
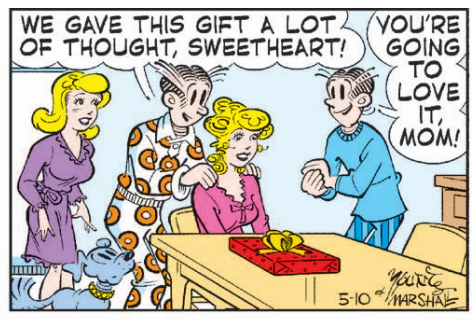


BLONDIE®

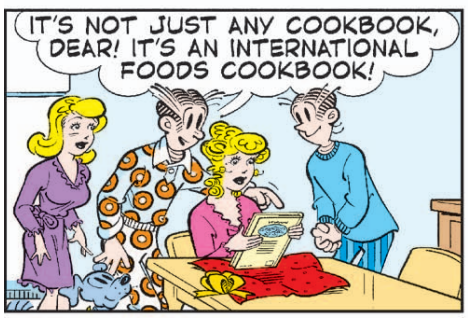
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

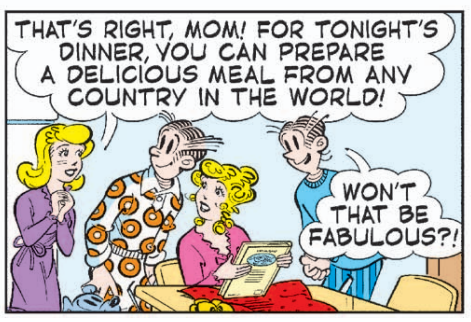






www.blondie.com





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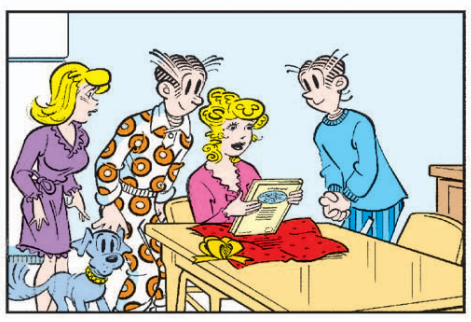
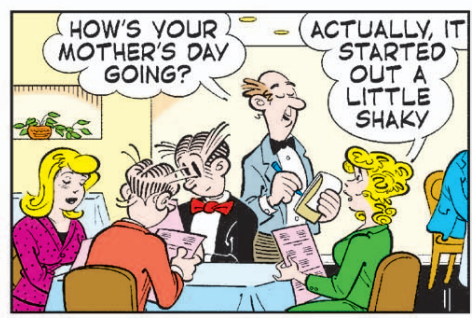
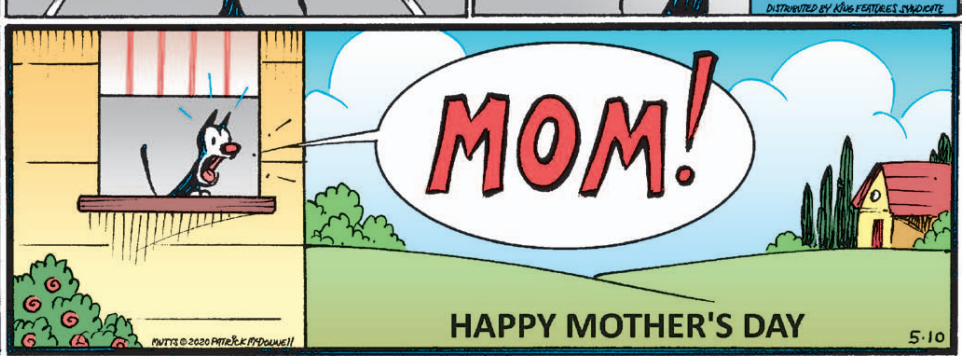




MUTTS

Patrick McDonnell



Hi and Lois

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

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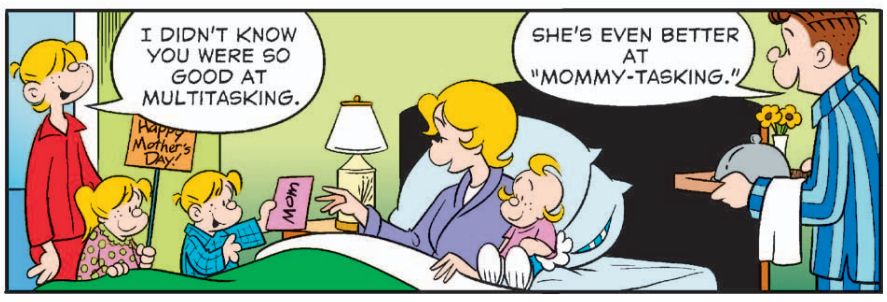
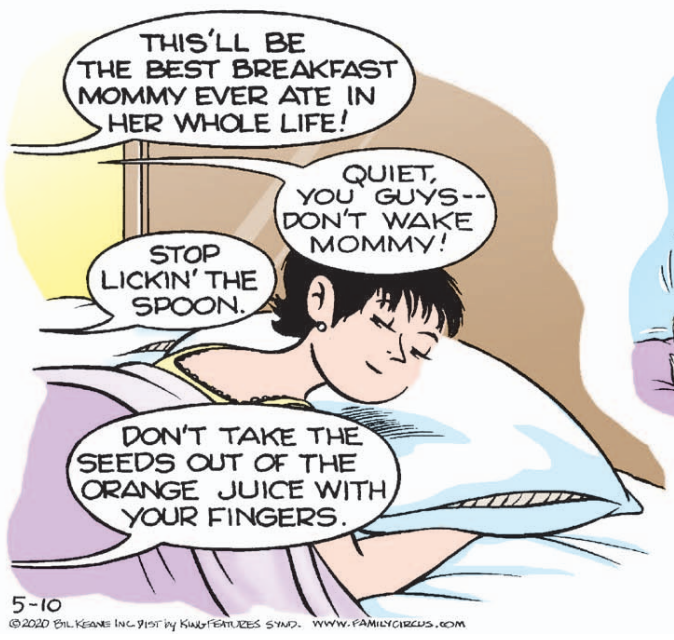


The FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bil Keane


THIS'LL BE THE BEST BREAKFAST MOMMY EVER ATE IN HER WHOLE LIFE!
QUIET, YOU GUYS-- DON'T WAKE MOMMY!
STOP LICKIN' THE SPOON.
DON'T TAKE THE SEEDS OUT OF THE ORANGE JUICE WITH YOUR FINGERS.

5-10

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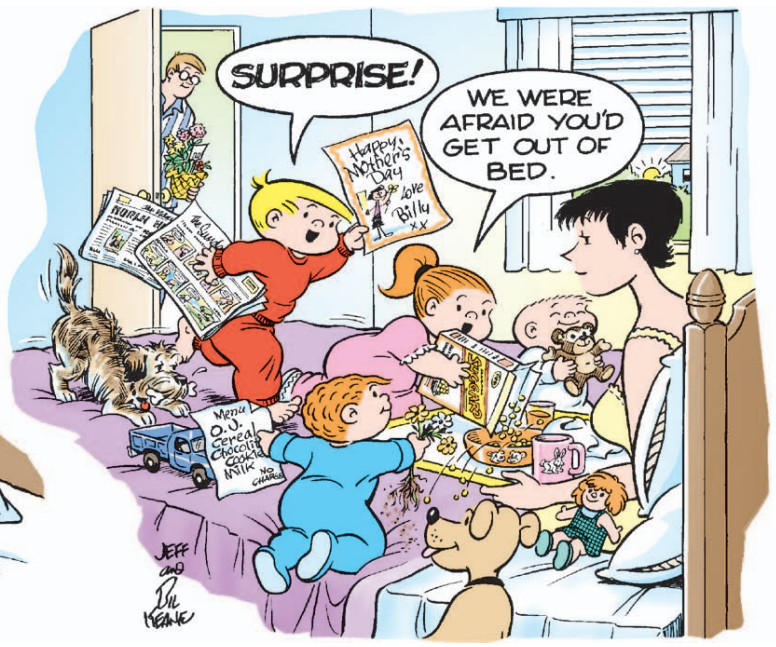
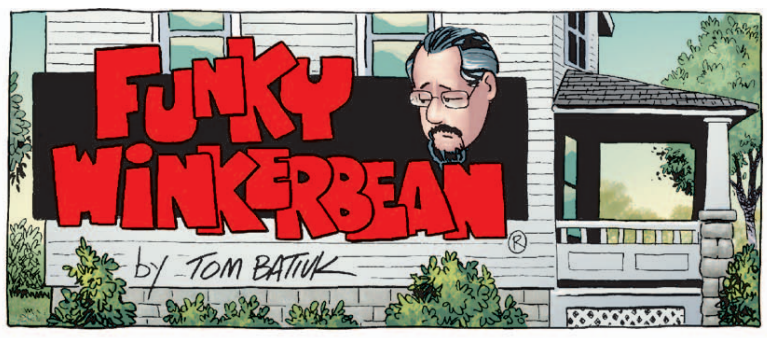
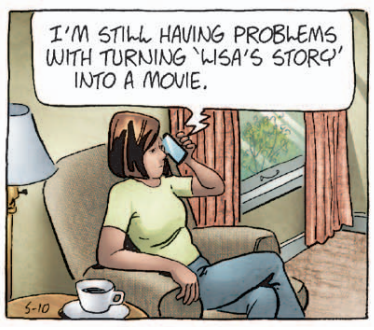


FUNKY WINKERBEAN®

by TOM BATIUK





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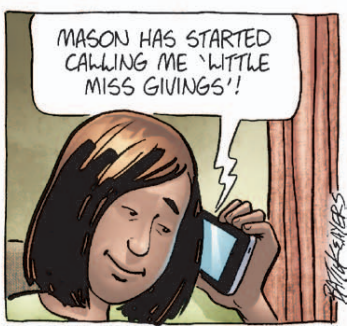
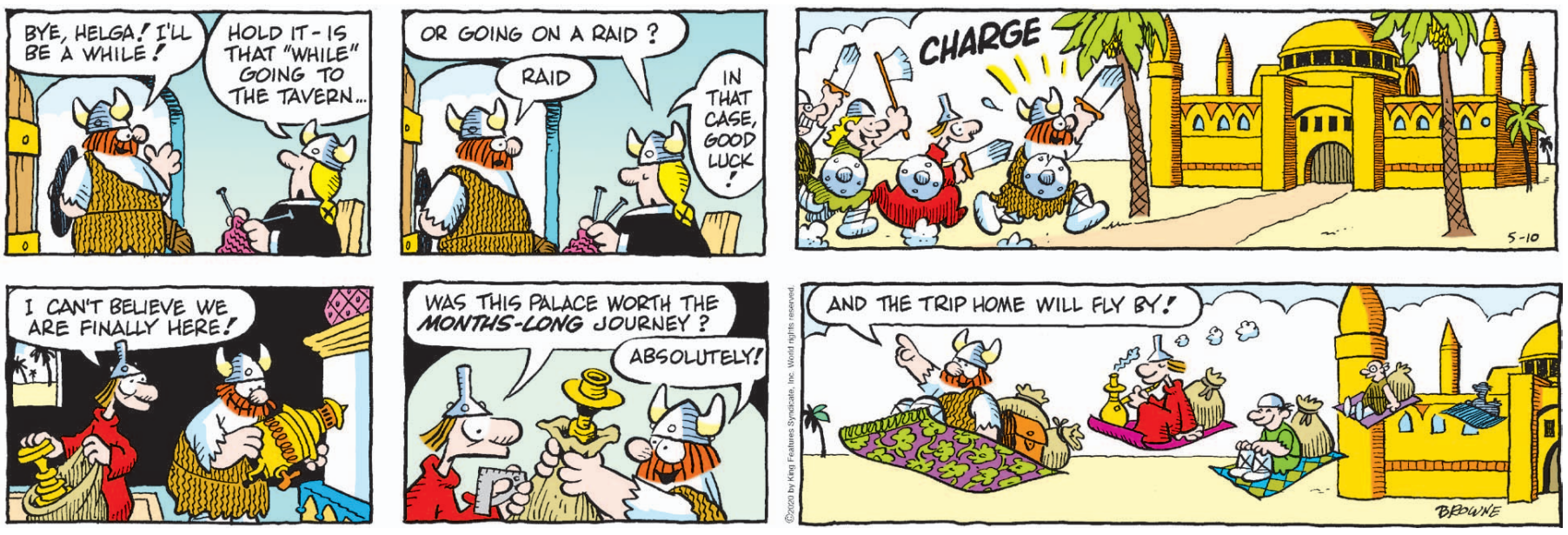
funkywinkerbean.com/books



HAGAR the horrible

by DIK BROWNE


BYE, HELGA! I'LL BE A WHILE!
HOLD IT - IS THAT "WHILE" GOING TO THE TAVERN...
OR GOING ON A RAID?
RAID
IN THAT CASE, GOOD LUCK!
CHARGE
5-10
I CAN'T BELIEVE WE ARE FINALLY HERE!
WAS THIS PALACE WORTH THE MONTHS-LONG JOURNEY?
ABSOLUTELY!
AND THE TRIP HOME WILL FLY BY!
BROWNE
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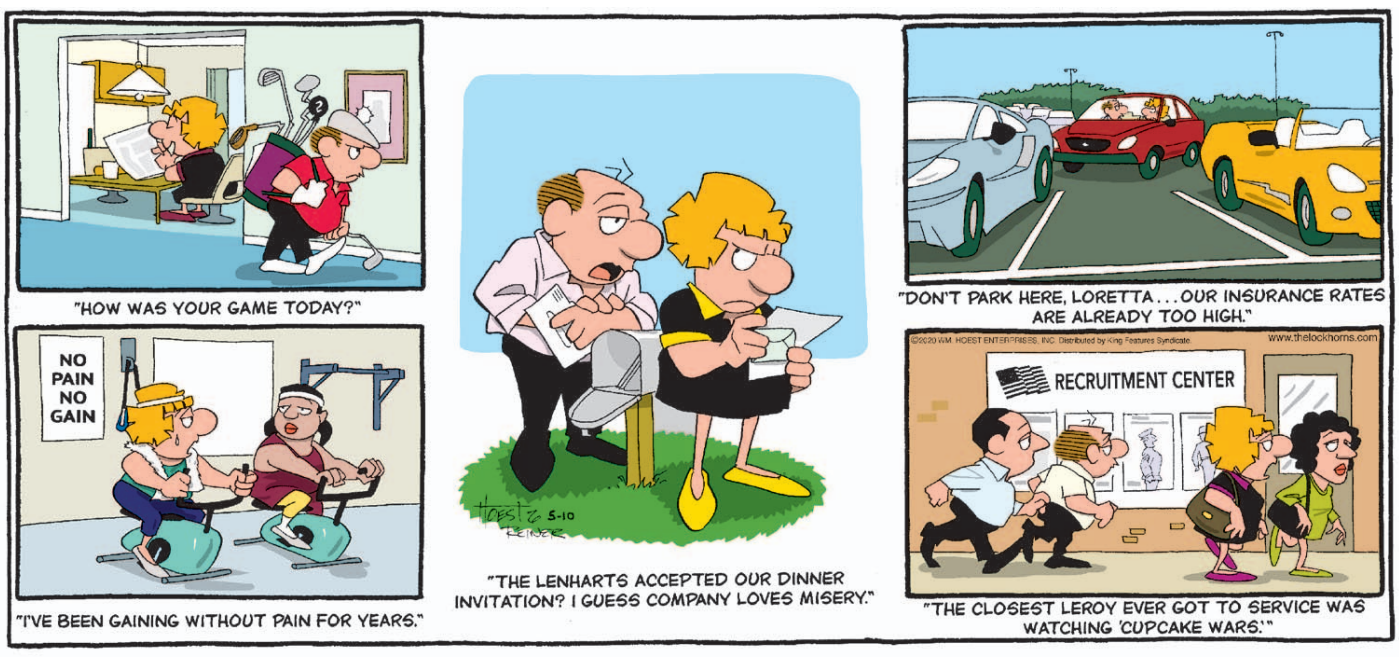
THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER


"HOW WAS YOUR GAME TODAY?"
NO PAIN NO GAIN
"I'VE BEEN GAINING WITHOUT PAIN FOR YEARS."
5-10
"THE LENHARTS ACCEPTED OUR DINNER INVITATION? I GUESS COMPANY LOVES MISERY."
"DON'T PARK HERE, LORETTA... OUR INSURANCE RATES ARE ALREADY TOO HIGH."
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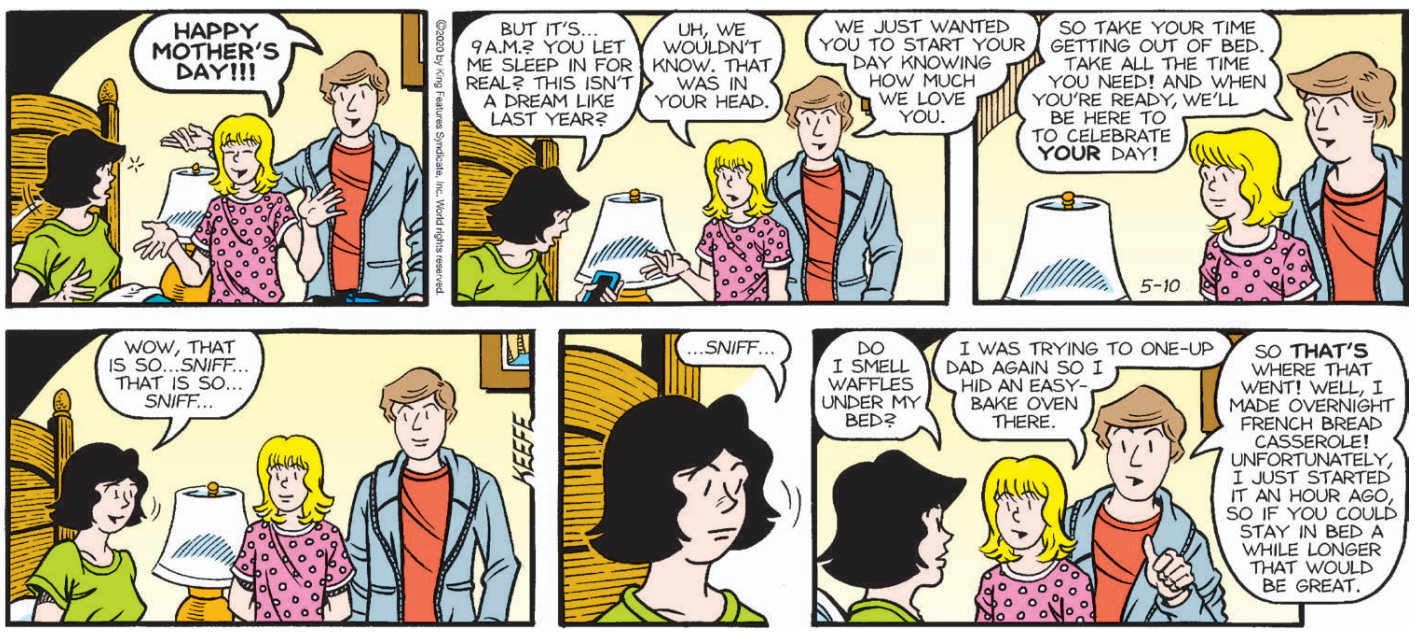
www.thelockhorns.com
RECRUITMENT CENTER
"THE CLOSEST LEROY EVER GOT TO SERVICE WAS WATCHING 'CUPCAKE WARS.'"

SALLY FORTH

by Francesco Marciuliano


HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!!!
BUT IT'S... 9A.M.? YOU LET ME SLEEP IN FOR REAL? THIS ISN'T A DREAM LIKE LAST YEAR?
UH, WE WOULDN'T KNOW. THAT WAS IN YOUR HEAD.
WE JUST WANTED YOU TO START YOUR DAY KNOWING HOW MUCH WE LOVE YOU.
SO TAKE YOUR TIME GETTING OUT OF BED. TAKE ALL THE TIME YOU NEED! AND WHEN YOU'RE READY, WE'LL BE HERE TO TO CELEBRATE YOUR DAY!
5-10
WOW, THAT IS SO...SNIFF... THAT IS SO... SNIFF...
KEEFE
...SNIFF...
DO I SMELL WAFFLES UNDER MY BED?
I WAS TRYING TO ONE-UP DAD AGAIN SO I HID AN EASY-BAKE OVEN THERE.
SO THAT'S WHERE THAT WENT! WELL, I MADE OVERNIGHT FRENCH BREAD CASSEROLE! UNFORTUNATELY, I JUST STARTED IT AN HOUR AGO, SO IF YOU COULD STAY IN BED A WHILE LONGER THAT WOULD BE GREAT.
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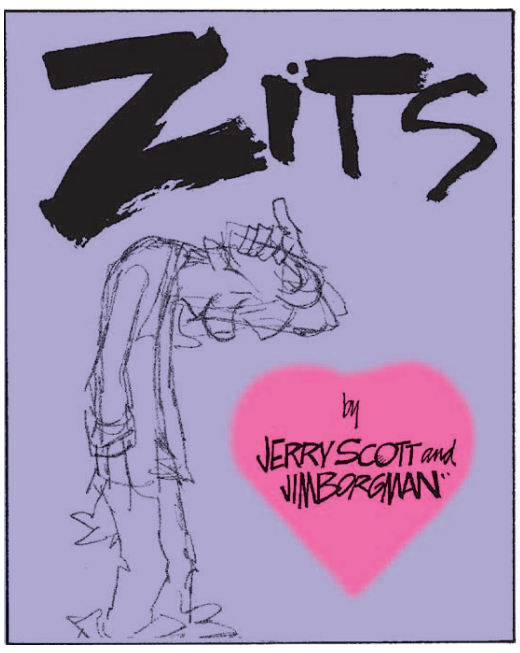
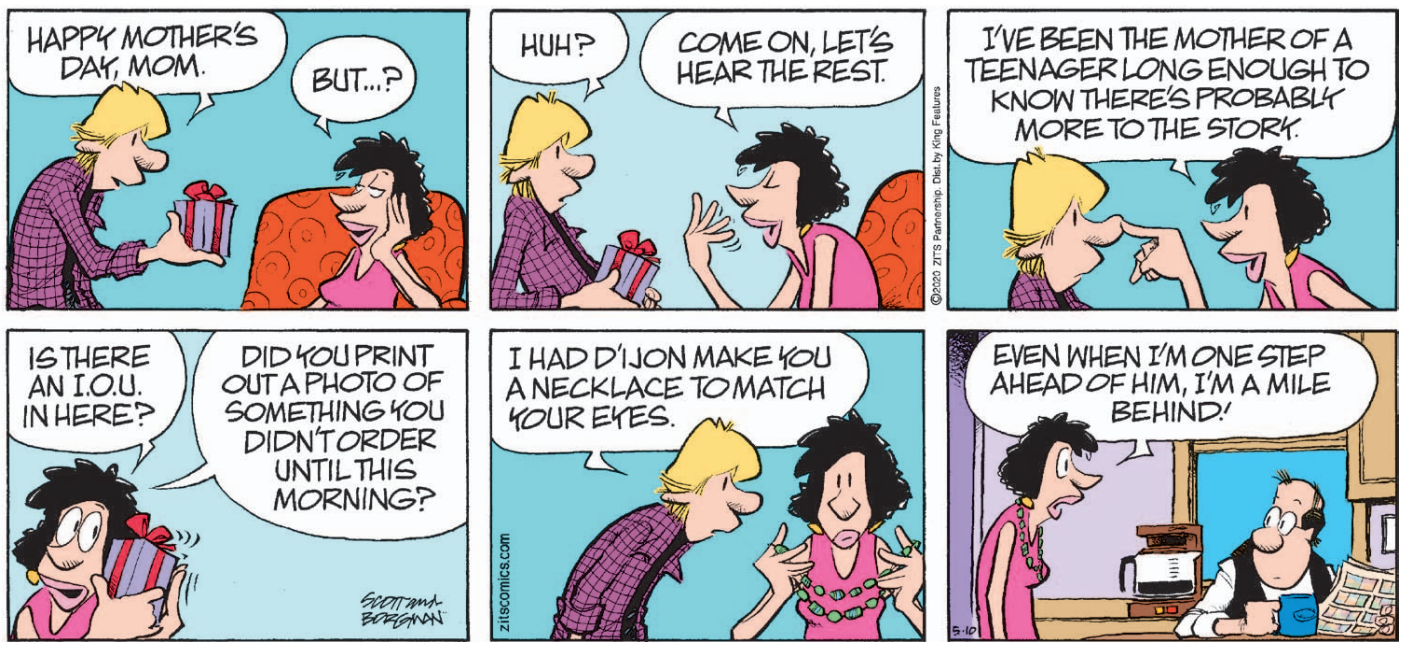
ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN




HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY, MOM.
BUT...?
HUH?
COME ON, LET'S HEAR THE REST.
I'VE BEEN THE MOTHER OF A TEENAGER LONG ENOUGH TO KNOW THERE'S PROBABLY MORE TO THE STORY.
IS THERE AN I.O.U. IN HERE?
DID YOU PRINT OUT A PHOTO OF SOMETHING YOU DIDN'T ORDER UNTIL THIS MORNING?
SCOTT and BORGMAN
I HAD D'IJON MAKE YOU A NECKLACE TO MATCH YOUR EYES.
EVEN WHEN I'M ONE STEP AHEAD OF HIM, I'M A MILE BEHIND!
5-10
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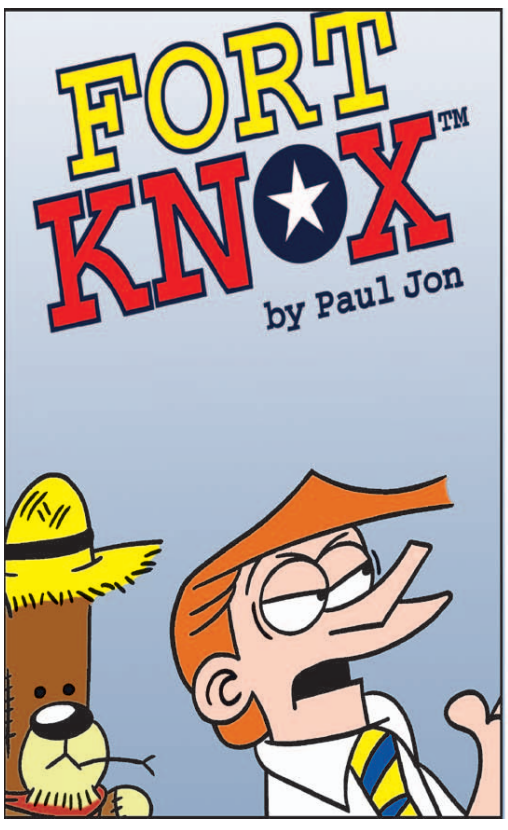
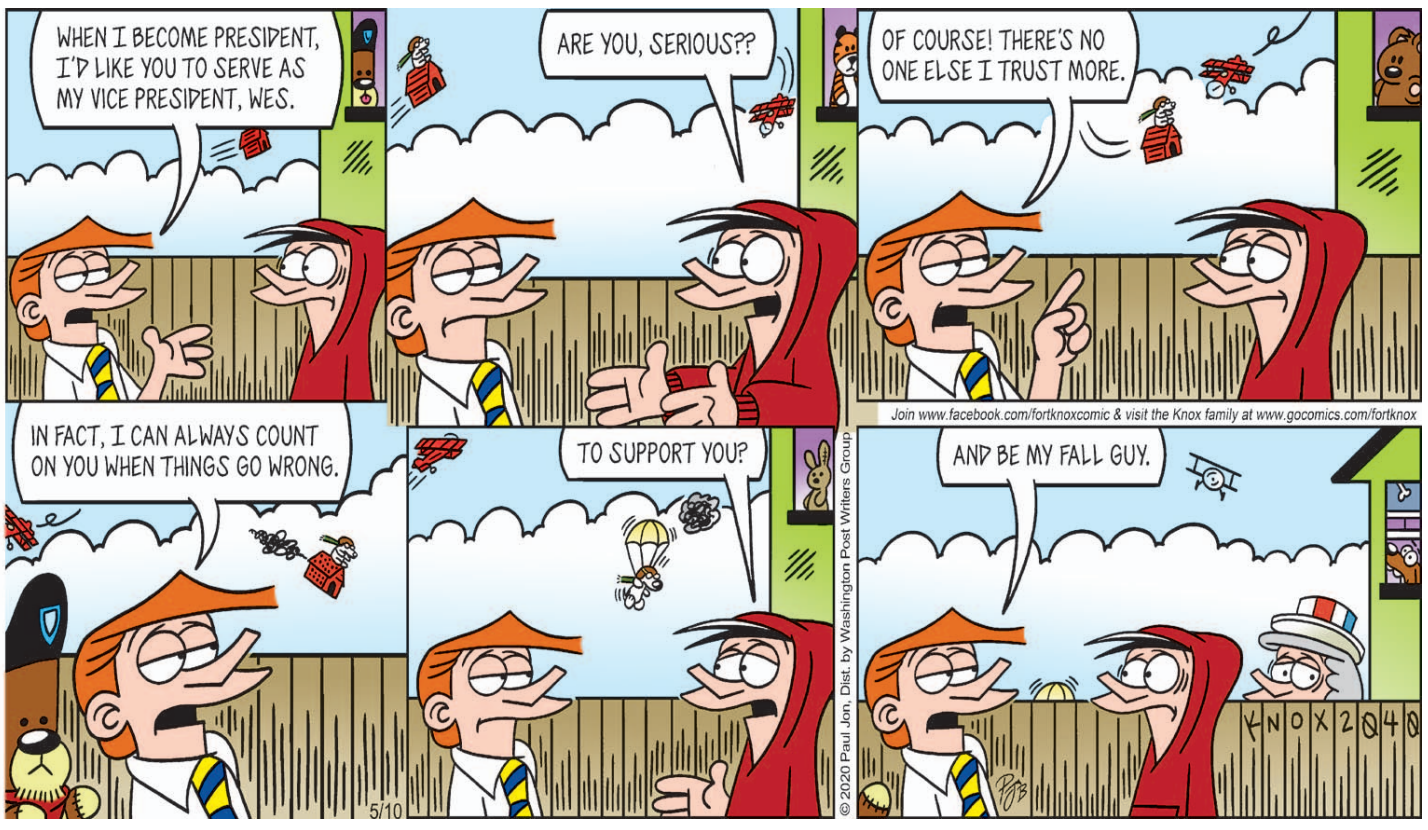
FORT KNOX™

by Paul Jon




WHEN I BECOME PRESIDENT, I'D LIKE YOU TO SERVE AS MY VICE PRESIDENT, WES.
ARE YOU, SERIOUS??
OF COURSE! THERE'S NO ONE ELSE I TRUST MORE.
IN FACT, I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOU WHEN THINGS GO WRONG.
TO SUPPORT YOU?
AND BE MY FALL GUY.
KNOX2040
5/10
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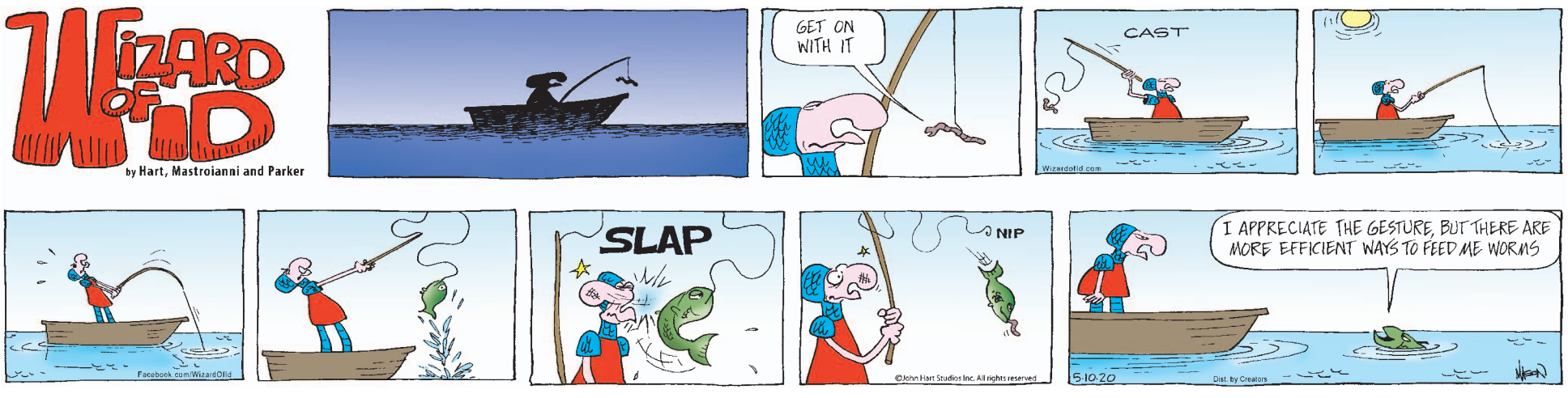
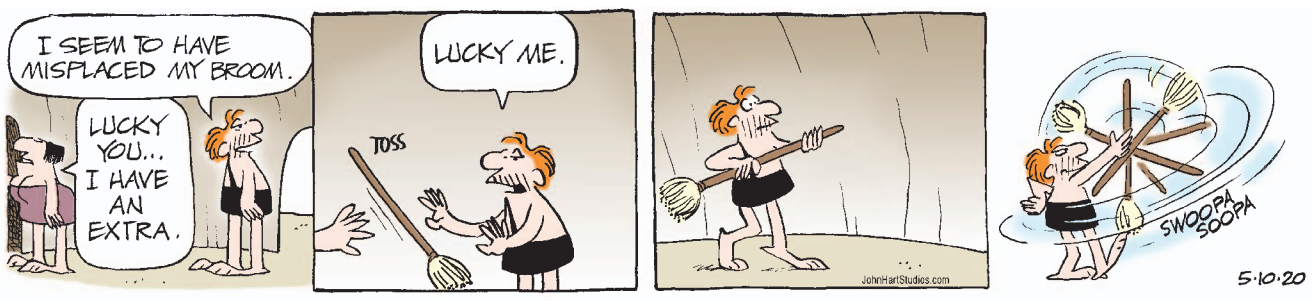
WIZARD OF ID

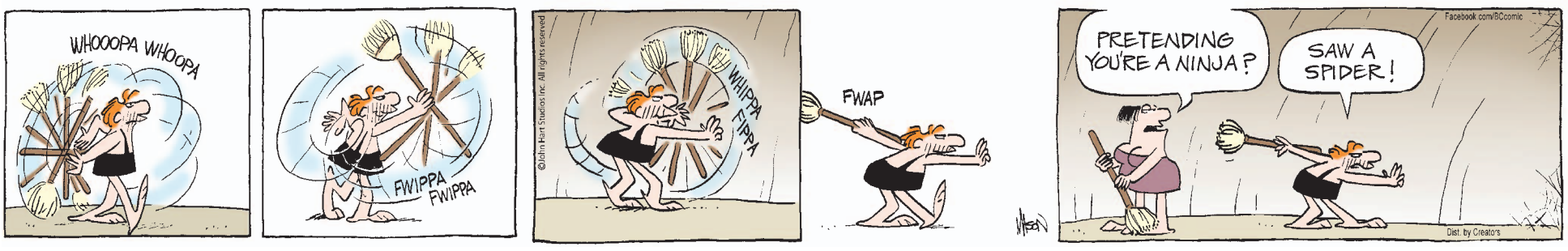
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker



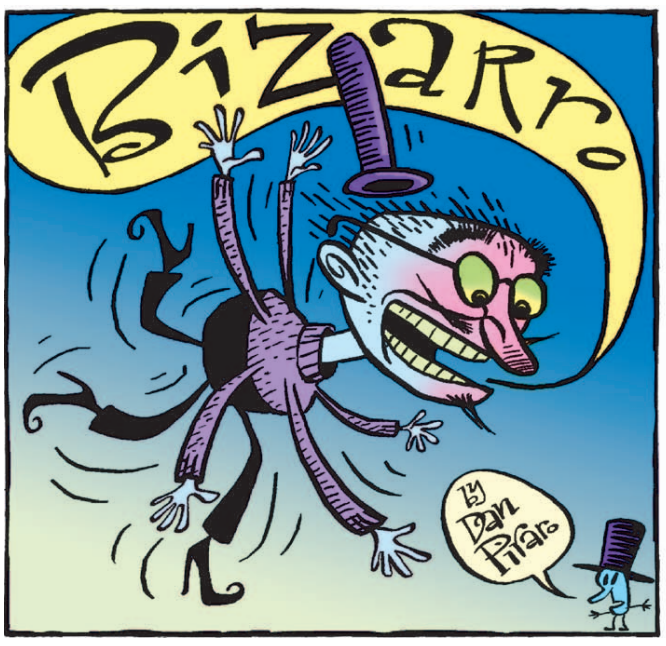
BC

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



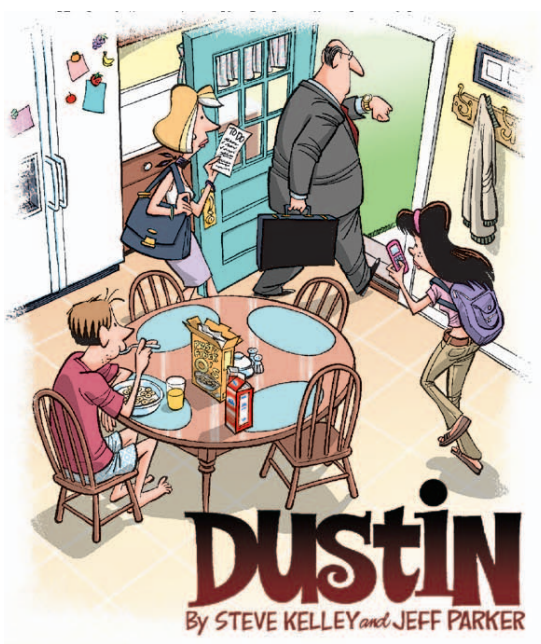


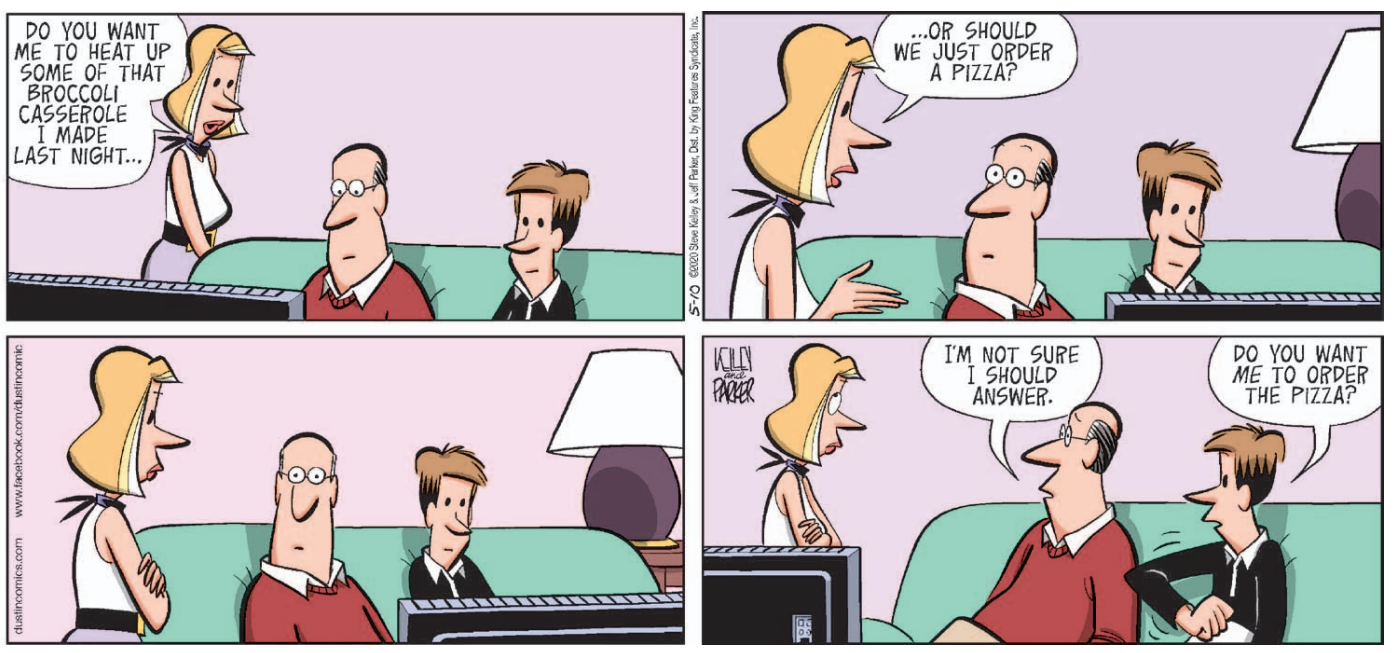
BIZARRO



DUSTIN

By STEVE KELLEY and JEFF PARKER




DO YOU WANT ME TO HEAT UP SOME OF THAT BROCCOLI CASSEROLE I MADE LAST NIGHT...
...OR SHOULD WE JUST ORDER A PIZZA?
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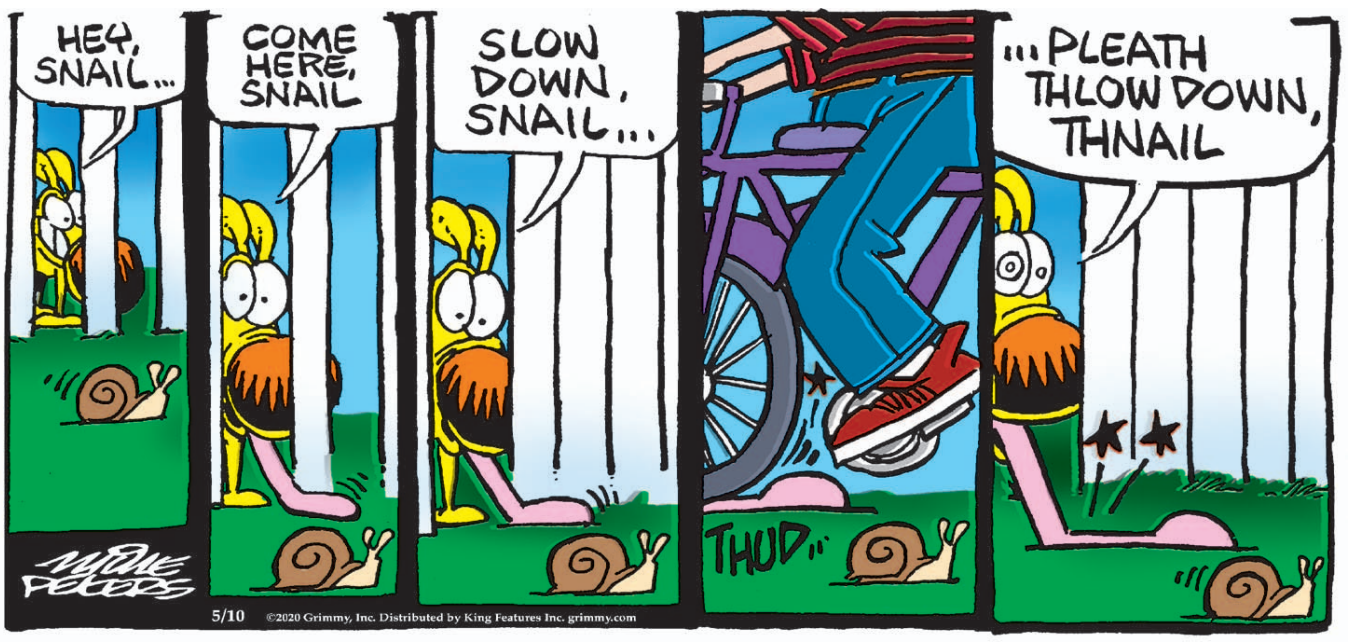
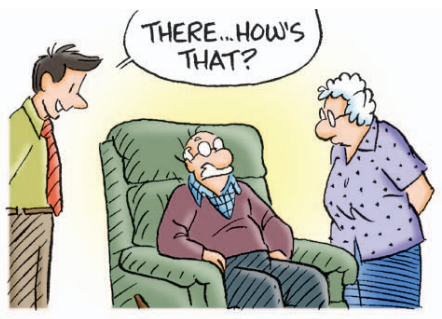
dustincomics.com www.facebook.com/dustincomic
I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD ANSWER.
DO YOU WANT ME TO ORDER THE PIZZA?
KELLY and PARKER

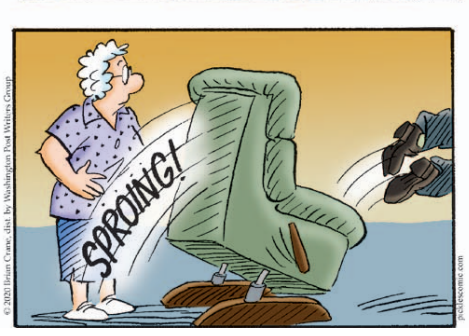
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE





Bob Weber Jr.'s SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

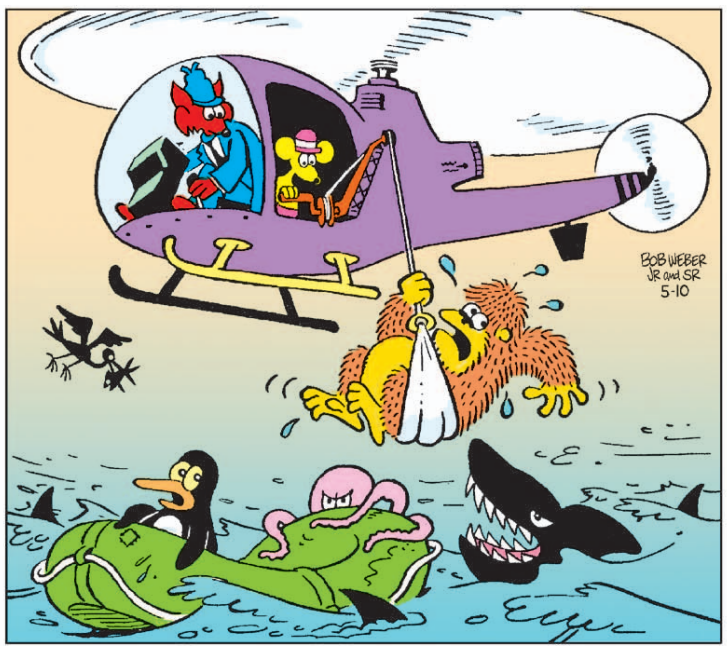
An orangutan and penguin have been adrift for three weeks with only enough fresh water for one castaway to survive that length of time. But when Slylock Fox and Max Mouse rescued them, they were both alive and well. Slylock knows how that is possible. Do you?

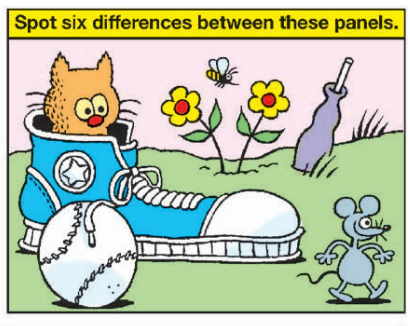
Solution -- Penguins are able to drink salty seawater. They have special glands around the eye sockets that extract excess salt from the blood. The excess salt is excreted through the nasal passages.

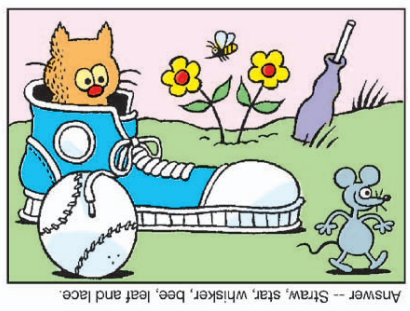
YOUR DRAWING

Today's terrific artist is Andrew, age 10

Submit your drawing to **www.kidcartoonists.com**







Answer -- Straw, star, whisker, bee, leaf and lace.

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